

## European diplomats arrested by Afghans

QUETTA, Pakistan (AFP) — Afghan security forces have arrested three European diplomats, Afghan Consul General Haji Abdul Khaliq said here Saturday, denying earlier reports that the trio had been kidnapped. Mr. Khaliq said the diplomats were taken into custody by security personnel in the Afghan border town of Spin Boldak after they illegally crossed into southern Kandahar province from Pakistan's Baluchistan province Friday. The three were identified as Jack Dodds of Britain, Gert Piening of the Netherlands and Stephen Elbert of Germany, all drug taking officers. They were found some 20 kilometres inside Afghanistan investigations were continuing to try to determine whether the diplomats were on an espionage mission inside Afghanistan. Denying an earlier report from diplomatic and official Pakistani sources here Friday that the three were kidnapped by armed Afghan tribesmen, he said he had contacted the commissioner of the Spin Boldak region, who said the three were all safe and in custody. "They were not abducted, they were arrested," he said.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Volume 17 Number 5291

AMMAN SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 1993, THU EL QU'DEH 4, 1413

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

## 100,000 could soon die in Sudan

PARIS (AP) — Nearly 100,000 people left homeless from civil war in southern Sudan could soon starve to death without help from the international community, a relief group says. International Action Against Hunger called for the effort so that "a drama comparable to that in Somalia doesn't repeat itself in silence." The group said that after a fact-finding mission, it has launched an emergency programme to provide food and medical care to children in the region. The 100,000 are scattered in the camps Ashwa, Arne and Atepi in southern Sudan, after fleeing the advance of government forces on the towns of Kopeeta, Torit, Bor and Kongor last year, the group said. Fighting "has prevented the delivery of food and humanitarian aid for the past four months," the group, known by its French initials AICF, said in a statement. The homeless "will be decimated by famine" without help, it said. The United Nations estimates 350,000 people have died from war and famine in the past two years. 1.5 million lives are threatened and two million people are displaced. Another round of peace talks is planned Monday in Nigeria between the rebels, led by John Garang, and the military government of President Omar Hassan Al Bashir.

## 6 Yemenis killed in election violence

SANAA (AFP) — Six people, including two election candidates, were shot and killed in the town of Zohra near the western port of Hodeida during clashes between two leading political parties, police said Saturday. They were the first election-related murders since the start of the campaign on April 18. The killings occurred Thursday during an armed clash between members of the two main parties entering lists for Tuesday's legislative election, the first balloting for a unified Yemeni parliament since North and South Yemen became one country in May 1990.

## Copt killed in Upper Egypt

ASSIUT (AFP) — Muslim fundamentalists stabbed to death a teenage Christian Coptic student and seriously wounded another in the Upper Egyptian city of Assiut, an extremist stronghold, police said. They said the incident occurred when three men lay in wait for students who were leaving their technical school and attacked two with knives, killing one and wounding the other before fleeing. The assailants were clad in the long white shirtdresses usually worn by fundamentalists, said police.

## Ex-general shot in Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Gunmen shot and wounded retired Algerian General Kamel Abdul Rahim Saturday as he left Rouiba, 20 kilometres east of Algiers, the official news agency APS said. Mr. Abdul Rahim, until he retired in 1988, was commander of naval forces. APS said between four and six gunmen attacked the general, hitting him twice in the body. The general, aged 58, is one of the most senior officers to be attacked in 14 months of violence blamed on Muslim fundamentalists. He was taken to hospital.

## Masoud rocketed during exercise

JABAL-UL SARAJ, Afghanistan (AFP) — Afghan Defence Minister Ahmad Shah Masoud and several senior military staff narrowly escaped death Saturday when two long-range missiles fired by anti-government forces exploded just metres away. Mr. Masoud was visiting a military base at Jabal-ul Saraj, about 65 kilometres north of Kabul, when the rockets landed near his operations headquarters. The minister was personally supervising an operation in which defence ministry officials claimed 3,000 fighters from Prime Minister-designate Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-i-Islami faction had defected to Mr. Masoud's forces.

## Tunisia's Communist Party changes name

TUNIS (R) — The 56-year-old Communist Party of Tunisia has changed its name to the Movement of Renovation. The change was announced after an extraordinary meeting which ended Friday night. Mohammad Harmel, outgoing secretary general, was unanimously reelected. The change received the blessing of Tunisia's ruling party the Rassemblement Constitutionnel Democratique, represented at the closing session by its Secretary General Chedli Neffati.

## Egypt, S. Arabia plan joint exercises

CAIRO (R) — Egypt and Saudi Arabia will stage regular joint military manoeuvres and are considering joint defence manufacturing projects, Egyptian defence sources said Saturday. Both countries are actively considering how to revive a short-lived military alliance broken off in 1979 when Egypt made peace with Israel. A decision on holding joint manoeuvres every six months was taken last week's visit to Saudi Arabia by Egyptian Defence Minister Lieutenant-General Mohammad Hussein Al Tantawi, the sources said. Gen. Tantawi also visited a Saudi defence factory. Earlier this year, senior Saudi defence officials visited Egypt's defence factories, which produce a variety of advanced armaments including jet fighters, missiles, tanks and munitions.

# Arab teams head for bilaterals amid mixed reactions at home

## Combined agency dispatches

JORDANIAN, SYRIAN and Lebanese peace negotiators left for Washington Saturday to attend the delayed ninth round of Arab-Israeli peace talks scheduled to resume Tuesday.

The 14-member Jordanian team is led by Abdul Salam Majali. Dr. Majali flew to London Friday to brief His Majesty King Hussein, who is vacationing in England.

Palestinian negotiators, who form a joint delegation with Jordan, are expected to leave Monday, amid deepening Palestinian division over continuing the peace process unless Israel makes concessions.

At least two of the 14 Palestinian delegates have refused to attend the Washington talks.

The Syrian delegation left Damascus for Washington Saturday afternoon via Paris. The Lebanese foreign ministry said some low-ranking members of Lebanon's team also left Saturday, and delegation head Suhail Shammam was scheduled to leave Sunday.

The four Arab parties involved in the peace talks with Israel agreed Wednesday to resume negotiations after a four-month delay.

The 16-month-old talks broke down after Israel expelled 400 Islamic fundamentalists from the occupied territories in December.

Jordanian delegates said they would continue discussions with Israel on a joint draft agenda charting future peace negotiations.

The accord is the most visible sign of progress in the otherwise stumbling 18-month-old peace process.

"We will continue with our agenda," said a Jordanian negotiator before flying to Washington. "We hope some progress would be made to enable us to start substantial talks."

The joint draft agenda foresees an eventual peace treaty between Jordan and Israel as part of a comprehensive Arab settlement.

Jordan is seeking to rework the document to plug loopholes which it feared could be used by Israel to set precedents and weaken Palestinian-Israeli talks — especially on the final status of Jerusalem, officials say.

Syria's official Tishrin newspaper meanwhile warned of the collapse of the peace process and a loss of U.S. credibility if Israel's "policy of obstruction" is allowed to continue.

Tishrin said the Arab decision to resume the talks was not taken easily and required "intense contacts and consultations with the U.S. administration."

The Arabs "expect real progress from the ninth session (of negotiations) as well as an effective American role which is in harmony with the commitments it gave," Tishrin added.

The international community must reject the Israeli position or see the ninth round become "a maze" that will lead to "the collapse of the entire peace process and U.S. credibility," it warned.

The Arabs plan to "immediately raise the basic issues, starting with a withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory," referred to in U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, it said.

If Israel continues to "defy U.N. Security Council resolutions," the Arabs will have no choice but to "ask the U.S. administration to implement its commitments and guarantees," it said.

In Washington, members of the State Department's "peace team" met Friday with representatives of the Israeli delegations to the Middle East peace talks.

Team leader Edward Djerejian, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, did not participate in the consultations, but other team members met with the Israeli representatives twice during the day.

"We don't have any firm schedule for meetings with the other delegations at this time," the spokesman said, "but we hope to confer with all of the parties before the talks resume on April 27."

In occupied Jerusalem, Palestinian leader Faisal Hussein angrily told his many critics Saturday there was no better option for the Palestinians than a return to the peace talks.

Mr. Hussein defended his backing of the negotiations in a shouting match with the wives of expelled Muslim fundamentalists and later before a sceptical crowd of Jerusalem merchants.

"Some people have asked me to withdraw from the talks," Mr. Hussein said.

(Continued on page 5)

Expellees await return home, page 2

Christopher: Meaningful Palestinian self-government possible, page 5

## PLO lists 'assurances' package

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has made public seven-point package of assurances which it said brought the Palestinians back to peace talks with Israel but accused the Jewish state of trying to avoid implementing them.

It said the assurances were "positive achievements" and appealed to Washington and Moscow as co-sponsors of the peace process to intervene strongly to ensure that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin fulfilled them.

"At this crucial moment, respect for what was agreed upon by the (peace) conference's sponsors requires that they take a strong stand towards the Rabin government's attempts to avoid the issues ... or escape their practical implementation," a statement carried by the Palestinian news agency Wafa said.

It said one of the assurances the Palestinians received was the speeding up of the return of nearly 400 Palestinians whose expulsion by Israel to South Lebanon in December caused suspension of the peace talks.

However, Mr. Rabin stuck on Thursday to an earlier proposal to allow 101 of the expellees to return immediately and the rest in stages by the end of the year and he was not obliged to make further gestures.

The PLO is under criticism from some Palestinians who say it agreed to return to the ninth round of talks in Washington next Tuesday without having achieved any of the concessions it had demanded from Israel.

The statement listed for the first time the assurances which the PLO said the Palestinians won. It called them "achievements which cannot be minimised or ignored" and said they were the

fruit of Arab support and the PLO's "wise and firm policy."

The seven assurances were:

— "Correcting the make-up of the Palestinian delegation to include sons of Jerusalem in the negotiating team."

— "No resort (by Israel) to the policy of deportations in the future."

— "Securing the return of a number of previous deportees (exiled by Israel before December)."

— "Speeding up the return of the December deportees."

— "A commitment, with the conference co-sponsors playing an effective role, to reduce the sufferings of our people living under occupation and the blockade (banning them from entering Israel)."

— "Reaffirmation of U.N. resolutions 242 and 338 (which state

(Continued on page 5)

## Sudan accuses Egypt of coup plot

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Sudanese leader Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al Bashir accused Egypt Saturday of plotting with Sudanese opposition groups to overthrow his government.

The military leader told a news conference a number of Egyptian-trained saboteurs sent to blow up installations in Khartoum and elsewhere had been detained but did not specify how many.

Gen. Bashir said Egypt provided Sudanese plotters with 12 helicopters to fly them to Sudan to blow up installations and seize power in Khartoum.

He said Egypt trained the plotters and provided them with 500 revolvers with silencers, Sudanese army uniforms, night sight equipment and ammunition.

"While Egypt had been accusing Sudan of exporting terrorism to other countries including

Egypt without providing any proof, we now have proof of the Egyptian government's training of people to commit terrorist acts in Sudan," Gen. Bashir said.

As outlined by the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA), the invaders, equipped and trained by Egypt, would be drawn from banned political parties and southern rebels. Some troops from northern Sudan would help.

"The invading troops will be transported by a foreign warship, and then Egyptian planes will be used to position them," SUNA said, quoting a press statement by "a senior security source."

In Cairo, military spokesman Taymour Al Zohairy said he could not comment but would ask his superiors. At the Foreign Ministry, spokesman Nagy Al Ghatrifi said: "I have absolutely no idea what you're talking about."

(Continued on page 5)

## Yeltsin issues last appeal to voters

MOSCOW (Agencies) — President Boris Yeltsin, gambling his future on a nationwide referendum, made a final appeal to Russians Saturday to put aside economic woes and give him their support for a "breakthrough to the future."

In a speech released ahead of its broadcast less than an hour before the polls open in the Russian Far East, he said he wanted the referendum result to "break through the mighty dam which has been constructed by opponents of Russian reforms."

"My ability to carry on with the course of reforms will depend entirely on how you vote on April 25. Your choice will decide what the president can and cannot do," Mr. Yeltsin said.

He said the most important questions on the ballot were number one and four, which polls

predict he will probably win. They ask voters whether they have confidence in the president and whether they want early elections to parliament.

Mr. Yeltsin, accused by his opponents of planning a coup if he wins, said he would "follow the principle of constitutionality, relying on the will of the people," whichever way the voting went.

But he made clear he wanted to push ahead with a wholesale shakeup of Russia's political system, particularly the all-powerful Congress of People's Deputies.

"Your votes for the president will be seen as your backing for a new constitution," he said.

"We must ensure that no single state organ, no single leader, whatever his high rank, can ever again concentrate all powers in his hands. Otherwise the ghost of dictatorship will continue to hover over Russia," he said.

(Continued on page 5)

As the dust settles, expect more chaos, page 4

# King hopes for breakthrough in talks, but warns of abyss

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has said Friday he thought the Middle East peace talks were close to a breakthrough, but warned that if the Arab-Israeli conflict was not settled swiftly the region would "slide towards an abyss."

Interviewed in London on the prospects for next week's resumed talks between Israeli and Arab leaders, King Hussein told Sky News: "I believe we are close to a breakthrough and I really hope I will be justified."

He said that people on both sides of the divide now felt it was up to them to resolve their problems rather than relying on outside agencies.

"There are too many pressing problems in every aspect of life and too many challenges and too much suffering, too much anger that grows and grows, and despair."

"So if it is not resolved now I think that we will be sliding towards an abyss," King Hussein said.

In an interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), King Hussein said that Jerusalem was "far too important to hundreds of millions of people throughout the world" to be considered "the domain of one or the other of the parties concerned."

The Holy City should become "the essence of peace" in the region, he said.

The Palestinian delegation has shown "great courage" in agreeing to participate in the talks at a time of "intolerable" conditions in the occupied territories, which remain sealed off by the Israeli authorities following violence there, the King said.

Following is a text of the King's interview with the BBC:

Question: Your Majesty, here we are in another stage of the Middle East peace process. Hopes have been raised before and hopes have been dashed. Are your hopes high again this time?

Answer: They are high and I hope they will be high throughout this phase which I hope will finally see us achieve a breakthrough which we have sought for so many years.

Q: On what basis have you got for saying that?

A: There is no other alternative and there is no other option for all concerned on either side of the divide and for the world beyond. So I feel there is a realisation by all concerned that this is it; we must really move to secure the

(Continued on page 4)

# Jordan calls for free movement of labour, capital in Arab World

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Saturday called for the free movement of Arab capital and labour within the Arab World and increased inter-Arab trade to advance Arab development.

The call came in a speech delivered by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on behalf of His Majesty King Hussein at the 26th session of the Council of Arab Universities held at the Jordan Universities of Science and Technology in Irbid.

Higher Education is an area which needs close attention in the Arab World since Arab universities graduates still lag behind their counterparts from foreign universities, the Regent said.

"The teaching method, moreover, is in dire need of development that renders a university student more capable of taking initiatives and being creative, and more self-reliant too," he said.

"The principal role of Arab universities, as centers for educational and intellectual radiance contributing to the advance of society and civilisation and the promotion of research and development, is not very clear, rather not ripe," he said.

Following are excerpts from the speech:

"In a seminar on 'Human Development in the Arab Homeland' which was recently convened in Amman, participants scrutinised the extent to which Arab countries have been successful in achieving human development in accordance with accepted international standards. It transpired that Arab countries have witnessed a tangible improvement in the fields of health care, education, general culture and urbanization; and that in certain parameters they have attained standards higher than those attained by other developing countries. On the other hand, major disparities in achievement, as dictated by the available financial resources of the Arab coun-

tries, have become apparent. Moreover, Arab countries generally allocate a large proportion of their revenue — a proportion amounting to three times that of developing countries — for armament and military purposes."

"Such disparities, and excessive spending, undoubtedly reflect insecurity on the part of the Arab Nation, on the one hand, and the need for Arab cooperation on the other hand. Indeed, economic disparity would not remain at the level it stands now if Arab capital, labour and commerce were allowed the freedom to move among the Arab states. To be sure, such course of action and movement are in the interest of all the Arab states along the path of bringing about an Arab order based on a new concept regarding frontiers: a concept that shifts from viewing frontiers as a barrier subjected to strict control to considering them as

(Continued on page 4)



Israeli police arrest a Palestinian youth suspected of throwing stones following a protest Saturday at Jerusalem's Damascus Gate (AFP photo)

# Palestinians stage Jerusalem protest against Israeli siege

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Three hundred Palestinians staged the first demonstration in Jerusalem against the indefinite closure of the occupied territories Saturday, a correspondent reported.

Police arrested one youth suspected of stone-throwing, but otherwise the protest at the Old City's Damascus Gate passed off peacefully.

Religious and secular leaders demanded the lifting of the restriction, which prevents Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip from entering occupied Jerusalem and Israel.

Israel sealed off the occupied territories at the end of March after a month in which Palestinians killed 15 Jews.

Demonstrators carried placards stating: "Al Quds (Jerusalem) is an Arabic city" and "we refuse Jerusalem closure."

The Palestinian decision to attend a ninth round of Middle East peace talks in Washington on Tuesday. A slanging match developed between supporters and opponents of a resumption of the talks.

On Friday, Israeli soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian man and wounded at least 65 other Palestinians in clashes in the occupied Gaza Strip, Palestinians said.

Wael Kaloub, 22, was shot in the face outside Shifa Hospital in Gaza City, after the army opened fire on Palestinians who were stoning soldiers, they added.

Palestinians said 43 people were wounded in clashes which broke out in the Toffah neighbourhood of Gaza City after the army raided a Palestinian wake held at the site of 14 homes destroyed by the army Tuesday.

Mourners threw stones at the soldiers, who responded by opening fire, Palestinians said. Medical personnel said another 10 Palestinians were shot inside

Shifa Hospital. They said the army closed the area around the hospital, preventing Palestinians from bringing more wounded into the hospital for treatment.

Twelve Palestinians were injured in clashes elsewhere in the strip, Palestinians said.

Four Palestinians have been killed and 200 wounded in clashes since Tuesday, when Israeli troops destroyed 14 homes in the Toffah neighbourhood.

Troops Friday enforced a tight seal of the occupied territories that is to last until early Tuesday. The restrictions were imposed to prevent anti-Israeli violence during two back-to-back holidays.

The occupied territories have been sealed since March 31, but several thousand Palestinian workers have been able to reach Israel every day. Over the weekend, no Palestinians will be allowed to pass the army checkpoints.

دكتور محمد الحاصل







# Home News

## NHF workshop stresses role of media in rural development

AMMAN (J.T.) — A training workshop for 50 members of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's (NHF) Quality of Life Project's Technical Committees operating in the southern part of Jordan has called for further coordination among concerned public and private institutions in development work.

At the end of a three-day training session (April 20-22) in Aqaba, participants also affirmed the role of mass media in rein-

forcing self-reliance and efficient organisation among rural communities covered by the NHF project.

During the three-day workshop, trainees received lectures on the project's technical committee's goals and role in promoting health care and establishing income-generating schemes in Jordanian villages.

They were also trained in the design and implementation of village development plans in coop-

eration with members of the local communities.

The Quality of Life Project was launched by Noor Al Hussein Foundation in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Ministry of Health with the goal of introducing a dynamic, innovative development programme that would improve the total quality of life of underprivileged individuals and communities in rural, urban and densely-populated parts of Jordan.

## UNRWA stands to purchase \$70m in local goods

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — After meetings with government officials and Jordanian businessmen on Thursday, a two-member United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) delegation Saturday toured Jordanian factories to determine their capabilities of producing essential products for Palestinian refugees.

According to an official at the Foreign Ministry's Department for Palestinian Affairs, which organised the visit in an effort to encourage UNRWA to purchase necessities it supplies to the refugees from local Jordanian firms should UNRWA decide in favour of this offer it would be spending not less than \$70 million annually here.

The UNRWA team, comprising Abdul Ghani Khalil and Ahmad Balgees are concluding their several day visit and will leave Sunday and Tuesday for Vienna to report on their findings and their discussions in Jordan.

Palestinian affairs department official Ihsan Bustami accompanied Mr. Khalil and Mr. Balgees on their visits to Jordanian factories manufacturing blankets, garments, detergents, stationary and pharmaceutical products — all of which are essential items distributed to refugees or used by the agency's centres in Arab countries hosting Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank Bank and the Gaza Strip.

## Japan offers Jordan small-scale grant help

AMMAN (J.T.) — As a means to ensure better response to a variety of development needs in Jordan, the government of Japan, based upon the consent of the government of Jordan, has recently decided to introduce a new scheme for extending Small-Scale Grant Assistance (SSGA), announced the Japanese government Thursday.

SSGA aims at providing financial assistance mainly to non-governmental organisations (NGOs), research institutes, hospitals and local governments in Jordan, so that they can carry out their grass-roots projects said an Embassy of Japan statement.

As far as it is a grass-roots development project, any project may be the subject of SSGA, it said.

But it said a project in one of the following sectors is desirable for SSGA: 1) primary health care, 2) primary education, 3) public welfare and environment, 4) WID (women in development), 5) poverty relief.

## Visiting Turkish trade team seeks deals

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Amman Chamber of Industry Khalidoun Abu Hassan urged a visiting Turkish trade delegation Saturday to help promote trade exchange between Jordan and Turkey and adjust the balance of trade between them.

Jordan last year imported \$97 million worth of Turkish products, but was able to sell Turkey only \$15 million of Jordanian goods, Mr. Abu Hassan said at a meeting with the Turkish delegation representing the Chamber of Trade in Istanbul.

Through joint ventures and increased imports of Jordanian products by the Turkish private sector, the balance of trade could be adjusted, said Mr. Abu Hassan. The head of the Turkish delegation said the visit aims at studying prospects for promoting economic and trade links with Jordan, adding that Jordanian and Turkish businessmen are welcome to play a joint role towards promoting trade links between their countries and towards increasing trade links with the countries of Central Asia.

## Communists re-elect Zayadin, but amend political programme

By Sausan Ghosheh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Yacoub Zayadin Saturday was re-elected as the general secretary of the Jordanian Communist Party (JCP), which also introduced major changes to its political programme at the end of its first national congress.

The congress was attended by 193 delegates, representing different regions in Jordan and different segments of society.

According to Dr. Zayadin, women constituted 16 per cent, workers 35 per cent and youth 50 per cent of the delegates.

The congress was the first meeting of its kind and provided an excellent opportunity for members of the JCP to meet each other, Dr. Zayadin said.

The three-day congress elected a new central committee and an inspection committee, which reviews the actions and decisions of the central committee.

Dr. Zayadin said approximately 50 per cent of the central committee members are new. In addition, he explained that the congress decided to form an inspection committee, a new phenomenon in the JCP, to ensure the correct practices of the central committee and to strengthen democracy.

Observers commented that the JCP is undergoing a democratization process. All the meetings and elections were open to the press. More important, for the first time in its 40-year history, the JCP, held free and open elections.

Although the former JSP leadership compiled a suggested list of the new central committee, the door was open for nominations from the floor and 39 were nominated, of which 25 were elected.

When asked why there was a suggested list, Laila Nafaa, member of the JCP's current central committee, said it was seen as necessary because most of the delegates do not know each other.

During the meetings, serious discussions and disagreements arose, which Dr. Zayadin perceived as healthy and part of the democratic process.

"Democracy needs practice. There were many heated discus-



Jordanian Communist Party (JCP) General Secretary Yacoub Zayadin (centre), flanked by JCP central committee members Abdel Aziz Al Ateah (left) and Munir Hamarneh, Saturday addresses the party's first, national congress (Photo by Youssef 'Alan')

On the Palestinian question, the congress changed the motto from the liberation of Palestine, to the liberation of Palestine through the strengthening of the Jordanian democracy and the solidarity with the intifada.

Dr. Zayadin said the JCP is calling for the strengthening of democracy, the ensuring of human rights and the reduction of illiteracy and backwardness in Jordanian society.

In addition, the JCP stresses the need to hold an economic national conference to adopt a social and economic programme that will end the "economic crisis" of the country and find a solution to the debt problem.

Ms. Nafaa said the congress decided to form committees concerned with human rights and the environment.

The JCP congress also affirmed its support for the workers of Jordan and granting women all their economic, political and social rights.

The congress called for unity among the parties in Jordan to protect the country from external forces, to liberate Palestine and to reduce unemployment and poverty.

When asked about the unity among leftist parties, Dr. Zayadin said it is a premature idea that needs more discussion.

The JCP took the opportunity to invite those who left the party to return and work to guarantee social development and democracy.

The congress also stressed that education and culture are important elements for the development and progress of society, warning the masses of the dangers inherent in the "imperialist" culture that has affected their moral.

The JCP condemned the regionalism, factionalism and terrorism that is present in the Arab World. It focused on the establishment of a realistic and studied unity among the Arab countries to face such problems.

The congress voiced its support for Cuba and North Korea in their stand against the "imperialist" powers. Furthermore, it called for end to the U.N. imposed embargoes against Iraq and Libya.

A statement was issued, by the congress condemning Russian President Boris Yeltsin for destroying the economic structure of Russia and for supporting the "mafia" and the "Western intelligence agencies."

The delegates for this congress will hold their posts until the next congress, meeting whenever they deem necessary to guarantee proper performance by the leadership.

## Sawt Al Shaab future remains unpredictable as deficit increases

By Ghaith El Lawzi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The future of the Sawt Al Shaab daily remains unpredictable despite the government's injection of JD 1,200,000 to repay part of the accumulated debt to the Housing Bank, and despite the newspaper's latest attempt to revitalise sales and attract more readers through offering free advertising of obituaries.

Jordanian private investors have offered to buy the government-owned newspaper after a series of short-term advertising and marketing efforts failed to counter its problems with over-employment and low distribution level.

The idea of minimising the government ownership of the daily was rejected by the government itself. In fact, once the government preferred to keep its share in the daily as is, the daily's reputation in the market had to be up to the level of the other two main competitors, (Al Ra'i and Al Dustour).

This action prompted Sawt Al

Shaab to make its latest effort in offering free space for obituaries sent in by direct family members of the deceased.

"The main objective behind their offer is to attract more readers to buy the daily and present a good image of the newspaper," said an official at Al Dustour.

He stressed that the main objective is not humanitarian. The same opinion was voiced by another official of Al Ra'i daily who pointed to the commercial aspect of the advertisement.

"Al Shaab is suffering from over-staff as well as overhead expenses. It is in need of new customers," the Al Ra'i official said.

"We tried to save the newspaper through paying its debts, but the government refused at the time. I suggested the idea to a group of Jordanian investors, but the offer was turned down by the government," said Sami Gammo, the ex-chairman of the daily's board.

In fact, the daily was seriously suffering from high debts as well as over-employment due to mismanagement. Still, when the gov-

ernment paid the debt to the Housing Bank, the situation did not improve.

The latest financial statement indicates that the 1992 loss was about JD 101,000.

The accumulated losses over the last few years add up to approximately JD 3.5 million, which exceeds the total capital of the daily (JD 2 million).

Had the government approved injecting more money to raise capital from Jordanian private investors, certainly the financial condition of the daily would have been better.

"By doing this we could have restructured the daily through cultivating a new management that involves qualified as well as experienced staff," said Taher Al Masri former Prime Minister who was intending with a group of Jordanian investors including Jafar Al Shami, Jawdat Al Bargouthi, Anis Al Muasher, Amin Shoaib and others to repay the debt to the Housing Bank.

He elaborated more by indicating that the main objective behind their offer was to privatise the daily and give it a strong push in the market.

## Canada, Jordan agree to expand air travel routes

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first day of a visit here by a 15-member trade delegation from the Canadian province of Quebec resulted Saturday in the conclusion of a memorandum of understanding to expand air travel between Jordan and Canada.

At ceremony attended by Deputy Premier and Transport Minister Ali Suheimat, Royal Jordanian President Mahmoud Balgees and Quebec Minister of Transport Sam Elkas, the document was signed by Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Director Ahmad Jweiber and Canada's ambassador to Jordan Andrew Robinson, paving the way for Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national airline, to make extra trips to Canada.

The memorandum which constitutes a follow up to a 1990 bilateral agreement on air transport allows RJ to operate flights to Montreal and Toronto and civil aviation authorities in Quebec to operate flights be-

tween Toronto, Montreal and Amman, via European airports, according to an official statement quoted by the Jordan News Agency, (Petra).

Following the signing ceremony Mr. Elkas said the agreement would contribute towards further bolstering Canadian-Jordanian relations and bilateral cooperation in economic, scientific, tourism and cultural fields.

The Canadian delegation which groups members representing leading industrial sectors in Quebec Saturday also met with Minister of Industry and Trade Abdullah Ensour.

Mr. Elkas told the minister that major opportunities exist for bilateral trade cooperation.

In reviewing Canadian-Jordanian tie, the two sides discussed prospects for cooperation in electrical electronic and telecommunications fields, according to the Petra statement.

The statement said Dr. Ensour outlined Jordan's general economic, educational, health and

trade policies noting that foreign investment projects enjoy numerous privileges in Jordan because of its political stability and democratic orientation.

Dr. Ensour also briefed the visitors on the country's economic restructuring programme since 1988 and discussed prospects of increasing the volume of Jordanian exports to Canada.

The Quebec delegation Saturday also called on Health Minister Aref Al Bataineh to discuss cooperation in health affairs and learned about the ministry's training and expansion programmes.

The two sides, according to Petra, discussed the prospect of Canada building a paediatric hospital in Amman and providing the ministry with ambulances.

The Quebec delegation is expected to meet with the members of the Canada-Jordan Business Council and senior business leaders, as well as with government ministers.

## Cabinet approve 2 more party papers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Saturday approved the issuance of licences to two political parties to publish weekly newspapers. The licences will be issued to the secretaries general of the Progress and Justice Party, headed by Ali Fareed Al Saad, and the Freedom Party, headed by Fawwaz Al Zu'bi. The cabinet's decision was issued upon a recommendation by Information Minister Mahmoud Al Sharif and in accordance with Article 16 of the 1973 Press and Publications Law and the Political Parties Law. The number of

licensed political publications now rises to six. The cabinet, also approved a draft law on measurements and specifications, which will be referred to the Lower House of Parliament for approval in its next session.

## Kabariti appointed acting foreign minister

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Saturday appointing Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti as Acting Foreign Minister in place of Kamel Abu Jaber. Dr. Abu Jaber is currently participating in the meetings of the Islamic countries' foreign ministers conference.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS


- ★ Art exhibition entitled "The Legend of Petra II" by artist Suba Shoman at the National Gallery for Fine Arts.
- ★ Art exhibition by Samia Al Zaru and Adnan Yahya at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery.
- ★ Exhibition of prints, entitled "Architectural Motifs from the Arab World," by Rima Farah at The Gallery, Hotel Jordan Intercontinental.
- ★ Exhibition of watercolour paintings by Lebanese artist Randa Berouti at Romero Restaurant.
- ★ Exhibition of ceramics by Margaret Tadros at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Dr. Laila Bustamfi at the Royal cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Jordanian artist Ahmad Nawash at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of sculptures by Syrian artist Aktham Abdul Hameed at Baladna Art Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition by Syrian Artist Youssef Abdelke at Al Balka's Gallery, Al Fubeis city.

### LECTURE

- ★ Lecture, in Arabic, by Minister of Culture Mahmoud Al Samra entitled "Cultural Centre in Jordan — Reality and Future" at the Scientific and Culture Centre of Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation at 6 p.m.

### FILM

- ★ 1990 feature film entitled "Reversal of Fortune" at 5 p.m. at the American Centre (R-rated, 111 min.).



**The National Music Conservatory /  
Noor Al Hussein Foundation**

and  
**Schiller - Institut**

present

**Seth Taylor (violin) and Monica Ripamonti (piano)**

in a  
**VIOLIN & PIANO RECITAL**

Sunday, 25 April 1993 - 8:00 P.M.  
The Royal Cultural Centre - Main Theatre

*Taylor and Ripamonti will perform three violin sonatas by Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms. Their recital will reinforce the application of Classical well-tempered tuning (A=432) and its implication on a better music appreciation.*

Tickets, for JD 5 each, are available at:

- The Royal Cultural Centre, Tel. 689026
- Belshe, Tel. 661322
- Romero Restaurant, Tel. 844227
- Philadelphia Hotel, Tel. 683100
- Rihani Stores, Tel. 693775
- The National Music Conservatory, Tel. 687620



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

Chairman of the Board of Directors:  
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:  
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:  
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:  
Jordan Press Foundation,  
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO  
Facsimile: 696183

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.  
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the  
Jordan Times advertising department.

### Sunday's Economic Pulse

## Sales tax — a painful setback

By Dr. Fahed Al Fanek

After publishing over 20 columns, in Al Ra'i (Arabic) and the Jordan Times, to support the sales tax draft law, I do not lack the courage to withdraw my support for the law. Not because I have backed off my position, but because the minister of finance has retreated and abandoned most of the salient points in the original draft. Unfortunately, he gave in to the pressures of the private sector's monsters; thus the law became tailored to the wishes of big business, at the expense of the treasury and the vast majority of the people. It is a pity that the minister of finance, the champion of the economic adjustment programme, was unable to take the heat and chose to appease the importers and submit to their demands.

The worst and most unfortunate concession that the minister of finance, and consequently the government, gave to importers is that the sales tax will be applicable to the cost, insurance and freight (CIF) value of imports i.e., before adding the cost of customs duty. This alteration is obviously a stab in the back of domestic industry, which is required to pay the same rate, but applicable to the whole price of the commodity, including even the elements of income tax and profits. This technical change means a reduction of one third of the tax on imports.

Such a practice obviously runs contrary to the best interest of the national economy. It favours imports and shifts jobs from the domestic economy to the economies of the countries from where the imports originate. This is of course against the interests of the working class, especially when unemployment is still as high as 18 per cent of the labour force.

The second concession made, or about to be made, by the minister of finance is the exemption of services from the sales tax. Lawyers, engineers, architects, auditors, advertising agents and other all-mighty professionals would not give their blessing to the law as long as the sales tax would reach them.

This concession means that the law lost what remained of its neutrality. It penalises the commodity production sector which deserves every encouragement and favours the inflated services sector which forms two thirds of the economy.

I am not sorry for the relentless campaign I have led to justify the sales tax as an integral part of the economic adjustment programme. The sales tax I defended and promoted was a reform, in the right direction, to the present consumption tax. However, after all the deals, concessions and distortions there is no more a reform whatsoever, only a change of name, which the International Monetary Fund (IMF) may be naive enough to accept.

Among other concessions extracted from the minister of finance is the reduction of the general rate from 10 to five per cent. Officials assured us that the proceeds of the new sales tax will be substantially equal to the proceeds of the old consumption tax, which it will replace. We cannot understand now how the proceeds will continue to be financially neutral when the general rate is halved. It is not reasonable to continue to claim that the proceeds will be neutral irrespective of the rate.

The economic neutrality is also out of question when we have four different rates, namely: zero, 5 per cent, 10 per cent, and 20 per cent. The wide variation of the tax creates artificial

advantages and disadvantages and operates as an incentive to alter the behaviour of both investors and consumers at the expense of economic feasibility considerations and economic sense. This is a new distortion introduced into the economy to worsen the allocation of resources.

It was argued that the concession given to importers was meant to prevent price changes, up and down, of certain commodities in the market, because without this concession prices of imports may rise between three per cent and 10 per cent, and the competing local commodities would look less expensive. This justification is meaningless, because the sales tax, either before or after the concession, will alter the prices of certain commodities anyway as long as the rates of the new sales tax will not be the same as the rates of the present consumption tax and many commodities which will be charged with sales tax were not subjected to the previous consumption tax.

Being the first and perhaps the only outspoken defender of the unpopular sales tax, I hereby distance myself from this law in its latest distorted version which is no longer a tax reform. On the contrary, it will create new distortions. I am saddened by the fact that the determination to adhere to the economic adjustment programme started to fade out and that the officials, which were the symbols of determination, started to give in and make concessions. Unless the sales tax law is restored to its original version, the whole economic reform and the adjustment programme will be put into jeopardy.

## Standard to torture?

NO MATTER which way the Israeli high court will decide on the legality of the "moderate physical pressure" that the Israeli general security service, Shin Bet, condones as lawful when interrogating Palestinians, the fact remains that the Jewish state's record on torture is dismal. Even since the beginning of the Palestinian intifada, no less than 2,000 to 3,000 Palestinian detainees or prisoners have been tortured or ill-treated, according to documented evidence obtained by several non-governmental organisations concerned with human rights abuses. Israeli authorities have been lax, to put it mildly, in meeting their government's treaty obligations under both the International Convention Against Torture and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The liberal application of moderate physical pressure has also been stretched to legalise the so-called "non-violent psychological pressure," something that clearly runs counter to international jurisprudence against torture and ill-treatment of detainees or prisoners.

The lip-service that Israel pays to various human rights instruments can be best illustrated by the fact that "non-violent psychological pressure" and "moderate physical pressure" have been construed by Shin Bet and other Israeli security agencies to mean that all sorts of physical brutalities which leave no physical trace can be tolerated. According to current Israeli standards, it is thus not inhuman to take detainees and prisoners before a mock firing squad or be led to mock gallows, in callous attempts to drive fear and pain into their hearts.

But even if the highest court in Israel finally decides against the legality of the present guidelines on torture, the issue will remain as to how to overturn all past convictions based on improper methods of interrogation and how to provide effective remedies to the victims of torture.

As we doubt that Israelis themselves have ever been the subject of systematic torture in their country, we have to question whether the rule of law in Israel does not accommodate two standards for justice: One for Jewish citizens and the other for Palestinians.

With the tenth session of the U.N. Committee against torture being currently in session in Geneva, it would be only right for its members to order a probe into Israeli police practices and also look at conditions in prisons where Arabs are kept in their thousands.

Israel cannot continue to plead the argument that it is a democracy (or worse still the only democracy in the Middle East) as long as its record on basic human rights is that dismal. As Israel is due to submit its reports to both committees, the one on torture and the other on civil and political rights, it should be well-understood that the two instruments apply to Israel proper as well as to the Israeli-occupied territories.

When the Israeli case comes under close scrutiny by these two bodies, there will be additional opportunities to dig deeper into some grave violations committed by the Jewish state against Palestinians. The picture that emerges will no doubt compromise Israel's image as a democratic state that respects the human rights of others. But will Israel ever draw from it the right lesson namely that occupation can only lead to more repression, more violence and widespread suffering?

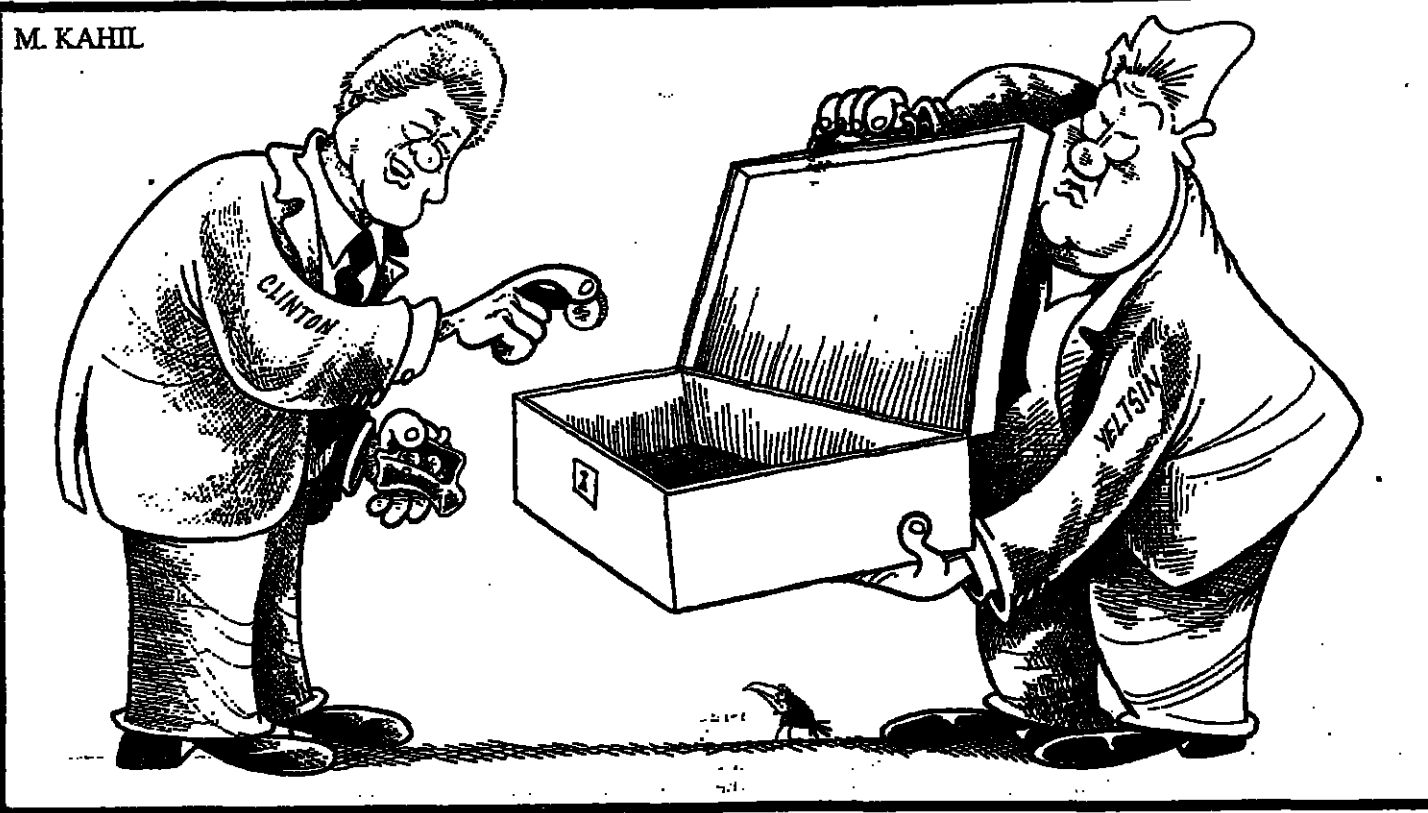
### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Saturday tackled the question of continued sanctions on Iraq in general and the U.N. refusal to allow the Iraqis to retrieve its civilian planes that had taken refuge in other countries just before the Gulf war. The Iraqis want the planes for civilian purposes, including the transportation of pilgrims to the holy places in Saudi Arabia, said the daily. The United Nations remains adamant in its position and is taking just stands against Iraq which is totally committed to implementing the sanctions, the paper said. Depriving the Iraqis of the right to retrieve their own planes can only exacerbate the Iraqi population's sufferings and continue to impede the Iraqi authorities' drive to supply the people with food and medicine, the paper said. Such inhuman practices against the Iraqi people are violations of human rights and an immoral exercise against a U.N. member nation, the paper continued. The time has come for the Sanctions Committee at the United Nations to view objectively and positively the whole situation in light of the needs of the Iraqi people so that the Security Council can take a more positive and just resolution, demanded the paper. It said that being cruel to the Iraqis, under the pretext of international legitimacy, can by no means contribute to the establishment of security and peace in the Gulf.

FAHED AL Fanek, a columnist in Al Ra'i Saturday demanded that the present election law be changed because it does not cater in any way to the needs of the present stage of democracy and falls far short of meeting the requirements of justice. The writer said that the present law is a farce created by the 1986 Parliament which, at the time, did not have actual representation of the people. The election law divides the constituencies in a manner that does not reflect the actual distribution of the people and the opportunities for the candidates are not equal for winning, said the writer. He said that there are numerous loopholes in the present election law that make it obsolete, especially since the last experiment proved it to be difficult to apply equitably and fairly, continued the writer. He said that for example under the present law, a citizen can vote for six candidates in one area while in another constituency, a local citizen can only vote for two candidates. He said that a change of the law is a requirement by the present democracy to flourish and for political pluralisms to be exercised in a more meaningful manner.

## As the dust settles post-referendum, expect more chaos

By John-Lee P. Holmes



On the rebound from the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialised nations' provision of \$43.4 billion in overall aid, Russian President Boris Yeltsin hopes to gain a favourable electoral "bounce" in today's referendum. Around \$2 billion in Western aid is scheduled to be released within the next few months, too late to have an immediate psychological impact.

Accordingly, while it is not certain how the aid announcement will affect the referendum, it seems more likely that, to the extent that it has any impact at all, the G-7 gesture will tend to reinforce rather than adjust preexisting attitudes.

Mr. Yeltsin's support, according to trends measured in the 1991 election and recent opinion surveys, is stronger in the urban areas and among the youth. But the latter are among those expected to show the lowest turnout at the polls Sunday.

In the provinces, where the four-question ballot will be won or lost, disapproval of the president remains high and it is here that Mr. Yeltsin has concentrated his electioneering.

Yet Mr. Yeltsin's trips to Siberia and other important voting areas have not shown the kind of Western-style gladiatorial campaigning that characterised his 1991 election victory. Instead he has focused on back-room deals with provincial, agro-farm and state industry bosses. Patronage, especially at the provincial level, has been targeted as the primary agent of political influence.

Mr. Yeltsin has gambled on the seasoned observation that, whether a legacy of communism or of the feudal system Lenin allegedly buried, rural Russian voters tend to rely upon the "suggested" choice of their state farm boss or factory head. It has been widely rumoured that as part of this strategy a tacit agreement between Mr. Yeltsin and these regional power brokers has evolved which will legitimise the devolution of power to the regions.

In return, these regional brokers have agreed to allow the referendum to go forward (many have not abided by Moscow's authority for some time) and are likely to encourage support for Yeltsin.

The embattled Russian leader also enjoys some important support from the mass media, especially television. The two primary stations (the president nominates their principals) have given him hours of public access with little or no counter-vailing air time for Yeltsin opponents from within the Congress of People's Deputies. The print media has been less one-sided, however. With respect to the largest dailies, Izvestia has supported Mr. Yeltsin in an editorial clash with Pravda, an advocate for Mr. Yeltsin's opponents. The public debate, by all accounts, has become increasingly shrill and didactic.

Amidst all of this posturing with respect to the content of the referendum an important compromise regarding the counting rules for the plebiscite was agreed upon by the constitutional court just days before the opening of the polls. The court decided that of the four questions asked on the referendum — do you have confidence in the president; do you approve of the social and economic policies implemented since 1992; do you think elections for the president ought to be held; do you think elections for the congress ought to be held — the first two will be won by the side receiving over 50 per cent from among those who actually turn

out to vote (the procedure favoured by Mr. Yeltsin) and the latter two according to whether they can gain the approval of over 50 per cent of the total 106 million electorate (the procedure originally designated by the congress for all four questions).

Parliamentary Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov announced shortly after the court's decision, however, that his resistance to Mr. Yeltsin would not be halted unless he wins a total electorate majority and the speaker will not accept a turnout majority as granting Mr. Yeltsin a mandate.

The actual turnout counting rule, used by most governments in the world and statistically representative of the total electorate's opinion, was favoured by Mr. Yeltsin because the total electorate counting rule makes it mathematically very difficult to win. Even if Mr. Yeltsin achieved a high 80 per cent voter turnout (85 million voters) he would still need 54 million or 63 per cent of those turning out to vote to secure over 50 per cent of the total electorate as opposed to needing only 43 million to gain a majority under normal election procedures.

In the 1991 presidential contest, for example, Mr. Yeltsin

and Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi secured 57 per cent of those who voted. Yet this was only roughly a third of the total electorate.

Unfortunately, the constitutional court's compromise, while it may allow Mr. Yeltsin to squeeze past with a narrow margin on the first question (the second is even less likely to gain Mr. Yeltsin a "da", however), does not bode well for the last two. And this is a recipe for post-referendum chaos.

Even on the first question, recent polls project that Mr. Yeltsin is losing steam. A late March poll by the pro-radical reform Izvestia said some 60 per cent "trust" Mr. Yeltsin as opposed to only two per cent for Speaker Khasbulatov and 12 per cent for Vice-President Rutskoi. In the most recent survey, reported on the BBC Saturday, Mr. Yeltsin scored slightly less than the 50 per cent of likely voters.

Neither Mr. Khasbulatov nor Mr. Rutskoi is likely to endure as a national leader in his own right. Someone else will have to emerge to challenge Mr. Yeltsin. Mr. Khasbulatov is a Chechen at a time when Russian troops are engaging Chechen irregular forces in the breakaway republic.

Mr. Rutskoi, an Afghanisthan war hero, helped secure the military and farmer vote for Mr. Yeltsin two years ago but has not been able to parlay any popular success from his recent turn against the president. The vice-president's actions and Mr. Yeltsin's counterattacks have only had the effect of peeling off support from Mr. Yeltsin and have not benefited either Mr. Rutskoi or Mr. Khasbulatov.

As a result, even if the most likely scenario obtains — Mr. Yeltsin wins narrowly on the confidence vote but loses on the reform question — this will produce no mandate in either direction and there will be no one of stature to take Mr. Yeltsin's place.

On top of this, with respect to the latter two questions, it is likely that given the high, nearly insurmountable, hurdles set by the counting rules (and especially given the widely reported voter apathy) an outright sanctioning of new elections of the congress or the president will not be granted.

Most observers agree that a new election for the Congress of People's Deputies is a prerequisite for a resolution of the current political crisis. Indeed, long-term stability requires the drafting of a new constitution and the legitimacy of this pro-

cess is dependent upon the legislative and executive branches of government having sufficient authority to act on behalf of the Russian people.

It is quite conceivable that the voters who turn out will still form a majority in favour of elections, and Mr. Yeltsin has announced he will accept "joint" elections at the end of the year if he loses the referendum. But it will be difficult and will create a great deal of turmoil should a weakened Yeltsin attempt to force the congress to accept such elections.

The question of direct rule or rule by military decree will return. The ensuing political uncertainty and Mr. Yeltsin's diluted ability to enforce economic decisions in the provinces (now sanctioned by referendum deal-making) will render the donor nations increasingly reticent about releasing the promised immediate and long-term aid.

The West had hoped that economic reforms, while creating a degree of havoc, would be able to proceed with the immediacy they deserve and that political restructuring could follow in their wake. This misjudgment has been aggravated by a failure to provide the necessary monetary liquidity. More generous aid would have facilitated economic adjustment in an environment which better enabled political reforms to go forward within a relatively stable, albeit artificially buttressed, milieu.

Such a policy would have been financially expensive. But the present situation on the eve of Russia's referendum is not a terribly reassuring one either.

When a country possesses enough equivalent megatonnage to destroy the world some fourteen times over, as does Russia, the weighing of "expenses" becomes a far more complicated endeavor. The perennial question which western leaders ought to reassess is who — bankers or strategists — should determine the rules for such precarious yet vital strategic and economic balancing acts?

The writer, a Ph.D. student in international political economy and a teaching assistant for a course on nuclear weapons and foreign policy at the University of Virginia, is currently on the staff of the Jordan Times.

## King hopes for breakthrough

(Continued from page 1)

kind of peace which future generations can live with, protect and accept.

Q: Because we had the impression that the Palestinians are actually going to these talks reluctantly under pressure from Arab governments, including your own, and also because they know they haven't really got the support of Palestinians in the occupied territories?

A: I think conditions are intolerable in the occupied territories. The situation becomes worse, as people are driven to despair. So let us hope that these negotiations will provide the window of hope that all deserve and need. I believe that the delegation that is going is with conviction and manifesting great courage provided the umbrella of the joint delegation to help the Palestinians to speak for themselves regarding their future. I hope it would be possible for them to do more. We will be supportive of Palestinians and trying to secure

their rights on their soil and we are for a comprehensive settlement and we will do all that we can towards that end. Let us hope that the elements of opposition to the only worthy cause a just and durable peace in the area on either side of the divide will not succeed in destroying this chance for all concerned in this area.

Q: Do you really think that the delegation has the support of the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank?

A: It is a challenging moment and all depends on the results. That are achieved in the coming talks. I hope also that it would be possible to work out all that would enable us to continue these talks, all the parties concerned, and that we would not fall hostage in the immediate future for any further action on the side of any to try to derail us from trying to achieve our objectives.

Q: Because we have Mr. Rabin saying that he is in no mood to make any concession to the

Palestinians either on deportations or the closure of the territories, on conditions inside the occupied territories. It is as if all the time Israel knows that it has got all the cards stacked in its favour?

A: If the result is failure — I hope that it would not be — it is not that the Arab side that is to be blamed for assuming a role in producing such a disaster. So let us wait and see.

Q: Do you think that you will have a better deal out of the Labour government in Israel so far than you have out of the Likud government?

A: It is too early to suggest that such is the case.

Q: Because some say there they could see no difference in the approach between Mr. Shamir and Mr. Rabin, except Mr. Peres saying that you can have self-rule, you can empty your dustbins and you can drive your own buses but basically you are not going to get independence?

A: I think that the basic difference is regarding the previous government in Israel, it started the process, but it wasn't convinced that it should be in power

when it achieved any of objectives that were obviously the target of all others — in terms of the solution based on 242, land for peace, the occupied territories of 1967, Palestinian rights on Palestinian soil. You may have the impression of the idea, the belief, that all that territory was Israeli. Now we see a different approach...

But I know that we are seeking a solution which future generations can live with and can protect, can feel has given them a chance to live in peace in that region. We have had too many obstacles in the very outset but let us hope that now we will proceed.

Q: What specifically does Jordan wait out of these talks? Are you still hopeful one day you will get East Jerusalem back?

A: East Jerusalem is a part of the occupied territories. Jerusalem has to become in the context of peace the essence of peace between followers of the three monotheistic religions. East Jerusalem was occupied in June of 1967. When we speak of Arab Jerusalem we speak of the rights of the Christians and Muslims alike as well. So in the context of

peace I hope a formula would be found if we have the vision all of us would ensure that Jerusalem becomes a meeting place where the rights of all are preserved.

Q: You have been on the throne nearly 40 years. Your are about to celebrate that fact. Aren't you feeling world-weary with all that you have been through, this time

and time again? Aren't you beginning to feel that this is too much of a burden that to carry? A: I do not believe it is as heavy as it has always been, but one has never lived for oneself or for the moment. If I succeed in bringing the region closer to peace it will be a kind of achievement of my struggle.

## Jordan urges movement of labour

(Continued from page 1)

safe and stable channels for commodities, interests and persons, and as junctions for national networks of roads, water, electricity and communication. This new concept has the virtue of bringing Arab countries closer to the experiments of regional economic conglomerates established by other groups of states that enjoy less cohesion and harmony than that enjoyed by the Arab states.

"We expect Arab universities to do a lot in circumventing quantitative achievements; concentrating on the capabilities of

graduates and the choice of their disciplines; encouraging research and the achievement of excellence; contributing to the development of society and establishing its production base; and taking active part in the process of creative thinking active part in the process of creative thinking and forming positive practices and consensuses in society. May the present decade witness beginnings that espouse such major tasks so that Arab societies may be enabled to achieve further progress, cooperation and freedom."



## Arab teams head for bilaterals

(Continued from page 1)

Husseini told about 300 merchants. "This is just talk. Those who are asking the delegation to withdraw should have a better alternative."

"This is not a battle for liberating Palestine," Mr. Husseini added. "We are trying to reach a political solution, not an ideological one."

Delegates Ghassan Khatib and Samir Abdullah of the communist People's Party have said they would stay away because Israel refuses to promise an end to expulsions.

The head of the delegation, Dr. Haider Abdul Shafi, told the Associated Press Friday he had not yet decided whether he would go to Washington. He said he had "full sympathy" for the two delegates who decided to stay away.

In the West Bank town of Ramallah, 35 relatives of expelled demonstrators Saturday outside the home of Hanan Ashrawi, spokeswoman of the delegation.

"Your people are damming you," shouted one woman when Mr. Husseini came out to talk to the protesters. "God will punish you," yelled another. "Where are our sons, husbands and brothers?" read a placard.

Mr. Husseini said the delegation would withdraw if nothing tangible was being achieved. Ten bodyguards carrying clubs watched the debate from two parked cars, but did not intervene. Security for Palestinian delegates has been tightened following threats by Muslim militants against them.

The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, vowed Saturday to intensify attacks against Israel to thwart the peace talks and abandoned reconciliation efforts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Abraham Ghosheh, spokesman for the Hamas faction, told a news conference in Amman the escalation in violence will be aimed against Israel's military rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

But he stressed that Hamas will not attack other Palestinian factions or members of the Palesti-

nian negotiating team.

"The leadership of Hamas issued its instructions to all its cadres inside Palestine not to resort to violence against Palestinian people or organisations, but against the Zionist enemy," Mr. Ghosheh said.

Mr. Ghosheh, one of Hamas' representatives in Jordan, bitterly denounced the PLO leadership for agreeing to resume the peace talks.

He declared that Hamas will not attend a planned reconciliation meeting with the PLO scheduled for Monday in Khartoum, Sudan.

Mr. Ghosheh warned of "serious divisions that threaten the unity of the Palestinian people" over the peace talks.

In Marj Al Zuhour, Lebanon, the nearly 400 Palestinian expellees stranded in southeast Lebanon will march on Israeli army lines Monday to protest the resumption of the peace talks, their spokesman said Saturday.

The spokesman, Gaza physician Abdul Aziz Rantisi, also rejected the PLO call upon all Palestinians to close ranks behind the leadership's decision to resume the peace talks.

"In response to the grave decision to return to the talks and betrayal of the deportees' cause, we shall stage a new march toward Zommaraya Monday, the 26th of April," Dr. Rantisi told reporters.

Zommaraya is on the north-eastern edge of a self-styled "security zone" Israel occupies in South Lebanon.

The Damascus-based Fateh-Intifada led by Abu Musa which opposes the PLO warned the Palestinian delegates against going back to the negotiating table.

It held "the deviationist (PLO) leadership responsible for the resumption of the talks and warned the Palestinian delegation members of this policy's dangers."

The headline Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine has called on the Palestinians to stage a general strike on April 27, when the talks resume.

## Christopher: Meaningful Palestinian self-government possible

WASHINGTON (USIA) —

Secretary of State Warren Christopher says that "serious and meaningful Palestinian self-government is possible as an interim stage toward a negotiated final status."

Addressing the annual convention of the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) Friday, Mr. Christopher said that the objective of the negotiating process "is a real peace that will see occupation give way to interim self-government arrangements and a new relationship between Israelis and Palestinians."

"This outcome must provide a peaceful and orderly transfer of authority to the Palestinians," he said.

A negotiated settlement in the Middle East, Mr. Christopher said, would be built on a number of principles, "including land for peace, the realisation of the legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people, security for all parties, and the normalisation of relations in the area."

Mr. Christopher also discussed U.S. policy towards Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, as well as human rights, Islam and its perceived threats to U.S. interests.

"Tonight, I would like to state clearly that Islam is not our enemy," Mr. Christopher stressed. "Nor do we consider Islam a threat to world peace or to regional security."

### PLO lists 'assurances' package

(Continued from page 1)

the principle of exchanging land for peace) as the rules of reference for the negotiations at all stages," and

"The reaffirmation by the American sponsor of its commitment to the ground rules of the peace process, including the principle of land for peace and the Palestinian people's legitimate political rights."

The PLO also called on Palestinians to unite behind its decision to resume talks with Israel.

It said support for the Palestinian delegation to the talks was necessary "so it can continue its strife on the negotiations front."

The statement added: "The PLO calls on our great struggling people and the valiant militants of the uprising to show more unity and to close ranks to foil the bets of the enemies to undermine this unity."

Mr. Hussein said Saturday that Palestinians could use other means to settle the Israeli-Palestinian conflict if negotiations with Israel failed.

### Yeltsin issues last appeal to voters

(Continued from page 1)

semi-feudal, semi-colonial capitalism" based on "criminal-type mafiosi and Western entrepreneurs."

Mr. Khasbulatov has joined forces with Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi who last week said

"What we do oppose is extremism or fanaticism, whether of a religious or secular nature." "We part company with those who preach intolerance, abuse human rights, or resort to violence in pursuit of their political goals," Christopher said.

Following are major excerpts from Mr. Christopher's speech:

The end of the cold war has created an unusual opportunity for progress toward peace in the region. In the Middle East, such opportunities are unlikely to last very long, and the cost of lost opportunity is very high indeed. It's precisely because of the recognition of these costs, that every Administration for over the last four decades — Democratic and Republican alike — has played an active role in the search for peace in the Middle East.

From the outset of this Administration, President Clinton has made clear his commitment to promoting peace in the Middle East. And we have been working hard to bring the Israelis and Arabs and Palestinians back to the negotiating table so that we can move ahead to grasp the promise of peace.

### Peace Process

As you know, two days ago, the parties agreed to return to the peace talks in Washington next Tuesday, April 27th, after a five-month hiatus. We welcome this

development. Too much time has been lost. Now is the time for real progress, and now is the time to help the peacemakers — not those determined to destroy any possibility of making peace in the region. Together, we must seize the chance to negotiate a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace settlement, based upon United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

"The promise of peace — the benefits that will flow from peace — are becoming more apparent to all the parties. A negotiated settlement would be built on a number of principles, including land for peace, the realisation of the legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people, security for all parties, and the normalisation of relations in the area. By securing peace, terrorists can be marginalised. The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction can be curbed. And the promise of regional economic growth and cooperation can be fulfilled."

"The Middle East does not have to stand in the world as a cauldron of hostility. Instead, it can be a cradle of hope."

### The U.S. — A Full Partner

My role is to be a diplomat, not a dreamer. Diplomacy can produce concrete results. The United States is playing an active role — not only as co-sponsor of the process, but as a full partner in the search for solutions. We are doing our part, and we are looking to the parties to do theirs to take advantage of this historic moment for the region.

"In helping the parties work through the issues, we recognise the political realities each faces at home. The Palestinians are under great pressure, and we must work with them and the Israelis to help demonstrate that negotiations lead to tangible results. And I want to commend the Palestinians leaders for making the difficult and courageous decision to return to the negotiating table."

### Bilateral Negotiations

In the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, serious and meaningful Palestinian self-government is possible as an interim stage toward a negotiated final status.

### MOVING?

Let Aramex Air Cargo take care of the work, Door to Door.

Call the friendly professionals on 660507 or 660508

**ARAMEX** AIR CARGO

Indeed, the objective of this process is a real peace that will see occupation give way to interim self-government arrangements and a new relationship between Israelis and Palestinians. This outcome must provide a peaceful and orderly transfer of authority to the Palestinians.

In the bilateral talks between Israel and Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan, the parties have been addressing the core issues of territory, security and peace. This is the right track. With continued commitment and hard work, the parties involved can find that peace is increasingly possible, desirable and even irresistible.

### Other Objectives

Let me turn for a moment to my recent trip to the Middle East. The president sent me there in February with several other objectives in mind. I wanted to demonstrate support for Lebanon. I wanted to reaffirm the American commitment to Persian Gulf security, and restate our policy toward Iraq and our concerns about Iran. Let me brief you on some of my impressions.

My visit (to Lebanon) was intended to underscore the United States' support for the efforts of the Lebanese to recover from that war, to regain its sovereignty and independence and to rebuild its economy. A strong central government is vital to these objectives. A key to the extension of Lebanese government authority throughout the country is the maintenance of strong, government-controlled armed forces. I am pleased that we have been able to restart the IMET programme — the International Military Education and Training Programme — for the Lebanese

armed forces.

I also want to emphasise that we continue to support full implementation of both the letter and spirit of the Taif accord. This includes the disarming of all militias and the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon.

Concerning Iraq, President Clinton has clearly reaffirmed the continuity of our policy. I want to take this occasion to stress that Iraq must fully comply with all U.N. resolutions.

We bear no ill toward the people of Iraq, whose suffering is the direct responsibility of the present regime. In fact, we continue to fund relief programmes in northern Iraq and to support U.N. efforts to establish relief in central and southern Iraq. The Iraqi people deserve a government that is representative of Iraq's pluralistic society, that is committed to the territorial integrity and unity of Iraq, and that neither commits crimes against its own people nor threatens its neighbours.

When I was in the Middle East, I also found deep distrust of Iran's intentions and potential capabilities. Iran is an important country that could make significant contributions to the international community. But first, it must end its behaviour which threatens its neighbours and seeks to undermine the pursuit of peace. Iran must end its support of terrorism, its acquisition of weapons of mass destruction and its effort to undermine the peace process. We will work with our friends in the region and with other nations to make sure that Iran's leaders understand the high costs of continuing to pursue destabilising policies.

In the end, of course, it will be up to the people and the governments of the Middle East to shape the future of their region. If they are successful, the benefits of true peace and prosperity will fall to future generations of Muslims, Jews and Christians, for the first time in these ancient lands.

I want you to know that this president and this secretary of state intend to move the peace process forward, to remain engaged, and to retain the trust of all parties to this historic quest.

### Democracy, Human Rights and Islam

The promotion of democracy and respect for human rights is one of the three pillars of President Clinton's foreign policy. I know, however, that there is concern, both within and outside the region, over Islamic fundamentalism and its effect on the stability and policies of many of these countries.

Tonight, I would like to state clearly that Islam is not our enemy. Nor do we consider Islam a threat to world peace or to regional security. What we do oppose is extremism or fanaticism, whether of a religious or secular nature. We part company with those who preach intolerance, abuse human rights, or resort to violence in pursuit of their political goals.

While we cannot impose our own form of government on others, we strongly support those who share and seek to encourage democratic values in their countries. As with the peace process, the United States stands ready to work with our friends in the region toward the important goals of peace, stability and social justice.

In the end, of course, it will be up to the people and the governments of the Middle East to shape the future of their region. If they are successful, the benefits of true peace and prosperity will fall to future generations of Muslims, Jews and Christians, for the first time in these ancient lands. I want you to know that this president and this secretary of state intend to move the peace process forward, to remain engaged, and to retain the trust of all parties to this historic quest.

## Sudan accuses Egypt of plot

(Continued from page 1)

financed camps and sending them to Egypt to destabilise President Hosni Mubarak's government.

Mr. Mubarak, in a speech Saturday, issued a warning against those interfering in other countries' affairs that seemed partly aimed at Sudan.

He urged such nations to "concentrate on resolving the problems of their people before thinking of exporting terrorism to others. ... It is the right of any nation to send back aggression and terrorism to its owners."

At his news conference in Khartoum, Gen. Bashir said the commander of the "invading forces" was to have been retired army Brigadier Abdul Aziz Khalid who is now in Nairobi, Kenya. He said the plotters intended to

set up a 13-man military council after overthrowing his regime headed by retired General Fathi Ahmad Ali who was army commander when Gen. Bashir seized power in June 1989.

Gen. Ali's deputy was to be John Garang, leader of the main faction of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) which has been fighting since 1983 against what it sees as the domination of the mainly Christian and animist south by the Arabised government in the north.

The SPLA was to have three other members in the rebel military council, Gen. Bashir said.

He said a council of ministers was also to be formed under Sadeq Al Mahdi who was prime minister until his overthrow by in 1989.

### THE PROFESSIONALS ALWAYS CHOOSE THE RELIABLE

PACKING, AIR FREIGHT FORWARDING, DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICES AND DELIVERIES, CUSTOMS CLEARANCE, TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS.

AMIN KAWAR & SONS  
TEL: 604676 604696  
P.O. BOX 7806 AMMAN

### CROWN INTL. EST.

Packing, shipping Forwarding, storage worldwide Removals Air, Sea and Land

TEL: 66 40 90  
FAX: 69 08 52  
POST: 92 64 87  
Amman-Jordan

### KATTAN

Candy Chocolates Gifts

Seventh Circle Opposite Ramada Hotel Tel. 825423

### STUDIO IRAG

Professional Quality 1 Hour Service Develop your colour film at our shop and get:

• JUNE: 20% discount on 35mm film  
• Free colour prints  
• 20 x 30 cm prints  
Shimshat - Opp. Grandlax Bank Phone: 604000 Sweheh tel: 823891

### 4 RENT & SALE

Many villas and apartments are available for rent and sale, furnished or unfurnished. Also many plots of land are available for sale.

For further details, please call:  
Abdoun Real Estate  
Tel: 810605/810509  
Fax: 810520

### AVIS

We try harder.

SAS  
699-420

### DANZAS

INTERNATIONAL DOOR TO DOOR REMOVALS GERMAN DRIVERS - AIR - MOVED REMOVAL TRUCKS YOUR REGULAR LINK TO AND FROM EUROPE SPECIALISTS FOR DIPLOMATIC REMOVALS IN THE NEAR EAST FOR DETAILED INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

**EASTERN SERVICES**  
OFFICIAL DANZAS AGENT IN JORDAN  
TEL: 621 775 TLX: 23023 FAX: 656 270  
PEACE BUILDING - JABAL LWEISDEH AMMAN - JORDAN

### 红房子餐厅

120 Authentic Chinese dishes, from all great regional cuisines styles of China. Prepared by our Chinese chefs. Open daily for lunch & dinner. Take away service. Jabel Al Hussein Ministry of Trade & Industrial Rd. Tel. 667785

### CHINA HOUSE Restaurant

### MANDARIN RESTAURANT

Special Chinese Foods Skilled Chinese Chefs Open 11:30-2:30 & 6:00-11:30 daily. Take away is available. Wadi Saqra Road near Philadelphia Hotel Tel. 661222, Amman

Once Tasted Always Loved

### PEKING RESTAURANT

AUTHENTIC CHINESE CUISINE elegant colorful atmosphere moderate prices shamsat, tel: 660230 (now open daily)

Shamsat - Opp. Grandlax Bank Phone: 604000 Sweheh tel: 823891

### CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket Mongolian Barbecue Lunch Friday only. Tel: 818214 Come and taste our specialties. Open daily 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. 6:30 - Midnight

Shamsat - Opp. Grandlax Bank Phone: 604000 Sweheh tel: 823891

### RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan. 1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahilyah Girls School. Take away is available. Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m. 7:00 - Midnight Tel. 638968

Shamsat - Opp. Grandlax Bank Phone: 604000 Sweheh tel: 823891

### JOJO'S

It's JOJO'S GOOD Fast Food Restaurant

Shamsat - Opp. Grandlax Bank Phone: 604000 Sweheh tel: 823891

### Hisham International Tours

"THE RELIABLE NAME IN JORDAN" Book now & Join our classy summer trips (8) days (7) nights. Specialists in Tailor-made Outgoing Tours & Hotel reservations at International & Luxury Hotels in Turkey, Cyprus & Egypt. ★ Istanbul \$800 H/B & tours ★ Antalya \$ 600 H/B ★ Turkish Riviera \$800 H/B ★ Cyprus \$770 H/B ★ All in 5 star INTL HTLS. Our first class services & moderate prices make sense for leisure & business travellers. Tel.: 698180/698181, Fax 689307

Shamsat - Opp. Grandlax Bank Phone: 604000 Sweheh tel: 823891

### A Restaurant With An Artistic Ambiance

Valentino Restaurant

Jabal Amman First Circle Opposite The Iraqi Embassy Tel. 668285

### DAROTEL

The First Class Hotel in Amman that has a Kitchenette in every room! "Satellite T.V. Reception"

Amman - Tel: 668193 P.O. Box 9403 - Fax 602434 Telex 23888 DAROTL JD Ideal Residence For Expatriates and Businessmen

### PARADE

Italian Restaurant Every Friday & Sunday FAMILY LUNCH Adults J.D. 7.000 Children 4.000

Abdoun / Near Orthodox Club Circle - Jordan Supermarket Building - 2nd Floor Tel: 824677

### FORTE GRAND

China Town At The Forte Grand Amman An exquisite new menu at special prices. For your reservation please call 674111 Ext 6338 or 674205.

Shamsat - Opp. Grandlax Bank Phone: 604000 Sweheh tel: 823891

### RESTAURANT & TAPAS BAR

International Dishes & Spanish Specialties

Bonita Open Lunch & Dinner Jabal Amman - 3rd Circle For Reservation Tel 65000-4

### Rozza

Now Open Welcomes back its Guests The best of Oriental & European cuisine. Tel. 633572 2nd circle - Jabal Al Hussein

Shamsat - Opp. Grandlax Bank Phone: 604000 Sweheh tel: 823891

### الروزنا

الاستوديوهات والسينما والبرامج التلفزيونية والسينما والبرامج التلفزيونية

Shamsat - Opp. Grandlax Bank Phone: 604000 Sweheh tel: 823891



## Edberg upset by wind and Pioline

MONTE CARLO (R) — Swirling winds and the dogged determination of unseeded Frenchman Cedric Pioline blew top seed Stefan Edberg out of the \$1.65-million Monte Carlo Open Saturday.

The Swede, clearly perturbed by a Mediterranean gale which sent clouds of dust blowing across court, lost 6-4 6-4 in one of the biggest upsets of the tournament.

The on-form Pioline, who had beaten third seed Petr Korda of the Czech Republic Thursday, became the first Frenchman to reach the final in Monte Carlo since Yannick Noah in 1986.

But though Pioline deserved credit for an enterprising game in which he put a lot of pressure on Edberg, the wind reduced the match to a lottery which would have been more suited to the nearby casino.

Edberg's usually deadly volley was a blunt weapon for once. He put away just one winning volley in the entire match and, appropriately enough, lost on Pioline's fourth match point by putting a backhand volley into the net.

The 23-year-old Parisian advanced to only the second final of his career. In his first last year in



Austrian Thomas Muster (left) and Spanish Alex Corretja shake hands after their quarterfinal match at the Monte Carlo Open. Muster beat Corretja to qualify for the semifinals to face Sergi Bruguera (AFP photo)

Lyon, he lost heavily in straight sets to American Pete Sampras.

On Sunday he will attempt to become the first Frenchman to win in the principality in 30 years

when he plays either last year's winner Thomas Muster of Austria or the 1991 champion Sergi Bruguera of Spain.

## Navratilova and Co. stay away

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Putting together a high-profile tennis team to represent the United States in international competition is no easy task these days.

First, the top men's players like Pete Sampras, Jim Courier, Andre Agassi and Michael Chang passed up the Davis Cup and their replacements were eliminated by Australia in the first round last month. Now the marquee women are unavailable for this summer's Federation Cup.

The United States Tennis Association chose Pam Shriver, Lori McNeil, Lindsay Davenport and Ann Grossman for July 19-26 event at Frankfurt, Germany. McNeil owns the highest ranking of the four at No. 19. Shriver is No. 28, Davenport No. 41 and Grossman No. 47.

Conspicuous by their absence were more familiar names like Martina Navratilova, Mary Joe Fernandez and Jennifer Capriati, all ranked among the top seven players in the world.

"What's going on here? We were a little disappointed that we couldn't get a team with higher rankings," said Dr. Gary Lee, co-chairman of the USTA's Federation Cup Committee. "Every one of those other players had prior commitments."

The United States has won 14 Federation Cup titles, more than



Martina Navratilova

any other nation, but has not won the title since 1990. Both Shriver and McNeil played on the Federation Cup team last year that lost in the semifinals to Germany.

Shriver will be playing Federation Cup for the eighth time and McNeil for the fifth.

Davenport, 16, is a product of the USTA's Player Development Programme and started the year ranked No. 159. Grossman, 22, was a member of the 1988 USTA national team and reached the fourth round of the 1989 and 1990 French Opens.

Marty Riessen, captain of the team for eight years, said, "we've got a mix of some more mature players and some young, up-and-coming players. Pam and Lori are very patriotic and are always willing to play Federation Cup."

Still, Lee said, tennis fans have to look at the roster and wonder about it.

"Martina is playing team tennis," he said. "Mary Joe and Jennifer are committed to an event in New Jersey. Hopefully, next year we will be able to prevent these conflicts."

## CIS lifters win gold medals

SOFIA (AP) — Armenian Khachik Kapamaksian and Ukrainian Alexander Blyshchyk won gold Friday on the third day of the European Weightlifting Championships.

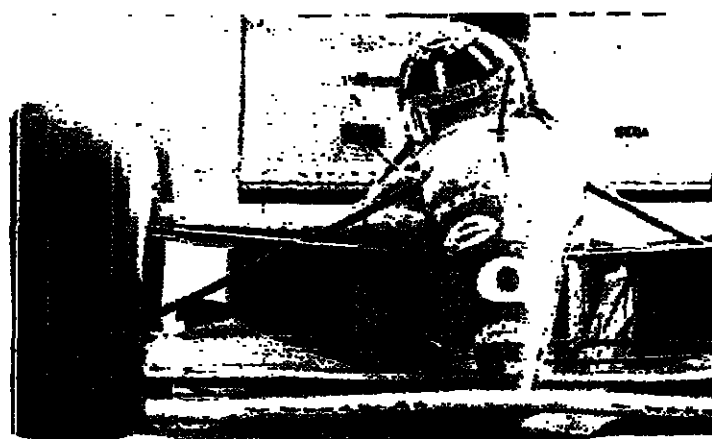
It was Kapamaksian's first European title in the category up to 76 kilograms (167 pounds). Blyshchyk gave Ukraine its first gold in the category up to 83 kilos (183 pounds).

Kapamaksian, 24, was second after the snatch but won with a total of 362.5 kilos (799 pounds) in the combination after hoisting 197.5 kilos (435 pounds) in the clean and jerk lift.

Second in the category up to 76 kilos (168 pounds) was Byelarusian Oleg Kinchko who totalled 360 kilos (793 pounds) in the combination. The Pole Anzhe Kozlowski scored as high, but the Byelarusian lifter was lighter.

Blyshchyk, 27, who was second at the 1991 World Championship, snatched 175 kilos (385 pounds), winning the first place in that event.

He lifted 205 kilos (452 pounds) in the clean and jerk and edged the Pole Krzysztof Siemion, (363 pounds) and lifting 207.5 kilos (457 pounds) in the clean and jerk.



British driver Damon Hill on Williams-Renault set the best time during the first qualifying session Friday for the San Marino Grand Prix (AFP photo)

## Prost on pole by one-tenth of a second

IMOLA, Italy (R) — Frenchman Alain Prost took pole position for Sunday's San Marino Grand Prix by just one-tenth of a second in a thrilling, closely-fought final qualifying session Saturday.

Prost, driving a Williams, clocked a best time of one minute 22.070 seconds at an average speed of 221.08 kph-midway through the session.

Williams team mate Damon Hill of Britain, on provisional pole position overnight, mounted a tremendous challenge to produce a time of 1:22.168.

German Michael Schumacher was third quickest in his Benetton ahead of Brazilian Ayrton Senna in a McLaren.

Schumacher had his Friday

Senna, the championship leader and, like Prost, a three times world champion, crashed as he tried to do everything he could to improve his time in his Ford-powered car.

The Brazilian, who crashed twice Friday, spun off the track at the acute mineral corner and hit the barriers.

He was unhurt and later produced a better time in team mate Michael Andretti's car, but it was not enough to improve his grid position.

Austrian Karl Wendlinger showed the huge promise of the new Swiss Sauber team by clocking the fifth best time.

Andretti's Friday times had been annulled and he desperately needed to do well to boost his confidence after a poor start to his first season in Formula One.

### SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Caniggia to seek reduction of suspension

ROME (AP) — Argentine national team and AS Roma striker Claudio Caniggia hopes an appeal can reduce his 13-month-suspension for cocaine use, an AS Roma team official said. AS Roma vice president Aldo Paquali said the club will appeal the suspension and a 100-million-lire (\$66,600) fine imposed by the Italian Soccer Tribunal on the club for indirect responsibility in the case. "It's a sad moment for Claudio, but he's looking forward to continuing his career with Roma and with his national team," Paquali said. He said the 26-year-old forward has expressed his desire to play with Argentina in the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

#### Rominger, Delgado favourites in Tour of Spain

MADRID (AP) — Spaniard Pedro Delgado may be the sentimental pick in this year's Tour of Spain and defending champion Tony Rominger the logical choice. Whatever happens, this is likely to be the last chance either aging cyclist has of winning one of Europe's three major cycling tours. The 21-day marathon — 3,576.3 kilometres (2,217.3 miles) across Spain — begins Monday in the northwestern port of La Coruna and ends May 16 just 60 kilometres down the road in the neighbouring Galician city of Santiago de Compostela.

#### Athletico in Cup protest

MADRID (AP) — Atletico Madrid Saturday protested to the Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) over the handling of their Cup Winners' Cup semi-final second leg against Parma on Thursday by German referee Aron Schmidhuber. Athletico, who won the game but lost the tie on aggregate, have asked for a protest to be made to UEFA and are angry that they were not awarded two penalties.

#### Sanchez Vicario advances to semifinals

BARCELONA (AP) — Top-seeded Spaniard Arantxa Sanchez Vicario advanced to the semifinals of the \$375,000 La Familia Open with a 7-5, 6-1 victory over No. 6-seeded Mary Pierce of France. Sanchez Vicario plays in the semifinals against No. 4 Amanda Coetzer of South Africa. Coetzer defeated No. 5-seeded Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria Friday 6-4, 4-0. Maleeva retired from the final set with blisters on her racket hand. In another quarterfinal, No. 7 Sabine Hack of Germany defeated Italy's Federica Bonisgnori 6-0, 7-5. Hack will face Conchita Martinez in the other semifinal. Martinez defeated Laura Golarsa of Italy 6-1, 6-3.

#### Nunn retains WBA title

MEMPHIS (R) — American Michael Nunn built his career as a fancy boxer, but he was a ruthless puncher Friday, knocking down Briton Ashley Crawford five times to retain his World Boxing Association super-middleweight championship. The left-handed Nunn knocked down Crawford twice in the fifth round and put him down three more times in the sixth, all with left-handed body blows. The three-knockdown rule was in effect, requiring the fight to be stopped if a fighter was knocked down three times in one round. Nunn dropped Crawford the last time with one second remaining in the sixth round. "You see when I'm aggressive," Nunn said. "I'm a bulldog. I showed that."

#### Bayern Munich flatten Saarbruecken 6-0

BONN (R) — Mehmet Scholl fired three goals as Bayern Munich steamrollered tiny Saarbruecken 6-0 Friday to widen their lead in the Bundesliga. Second-placed Werder Bremen drew 0-0 with Cologne to slip two points behind Bayern.

## Little League Baseball

### Results of games played April 23:

**Coach Pitch Division**  
Modern Schools — 12  
Epson — 14

**Kid Pitch Division**  
Mag — 11  
Grundfuss — 8

**STANDINGS:**  
**Coach Pitch Division**  
1. Alphacan W-2, L-0  
2. Sipes W-1, L-1  
3. Epson W-1, L-1  
4. Modern Schools W-0, L-2

**Kid Pitch Division**  
1. Mag W-2, L-0  
2. Grundfuss W-1, L-1  
3. Beta W-1, L-1  
4. Al Maaden W-0, L-2

## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n'Jeff



## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY APRIL 25, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Avoid that pal who loves to gossip and makes you nervous, as you carry through with your commitments to others who are depending on you. Show tact in handling other annoying problems he diplomatically.

**ARIES:** March 21 to April 19 Get into whatever practical matters are facing you, see them as they actually are, handle them and tonight have a happy romantic evening with your mate.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Query whatever associates are about as to how you and they can be more effective in whatever your joint interests happen to be, tonight go to new sites with a partner.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Approach any phase of your daily duties as though you can get standpoints you have not considered before and you make big progress with tasks.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Make arrangements for a pleasant time for today and the new week during the day and in the evening show special affection for your mate.

**LEO:** (July 22 August 21) Whatever you have in mind about home and clan can now be worked out by a more serious and investigative approach and tonight entertain at your home.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Consider well the sources

where you can gain the knowledge that will make your daily routine, more productive and put them into motion at once.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Your present material situation requires some study and better awareness how to rightly handle your assets and liabilities, tonight discuss money with an expert.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) You can preoccupy yourself with whatever your personal desires happen to be during the day and make out well, but tonight be out with good friends.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Look at whatever has been troubling you and you will be able to view it in a more constructive light and get it in back of you by steadfastness.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Whatever you feel is the best place for you to get the things you have been looking for is your best means for procuring them more readily.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) If you have any worldly situation requiring careful thought and especially where credit is concerned, now is the day to handle with care caution.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Think about the new goals that activate you and delve into them to you become expert in understanding them and you aid your growth and success.

## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



## JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

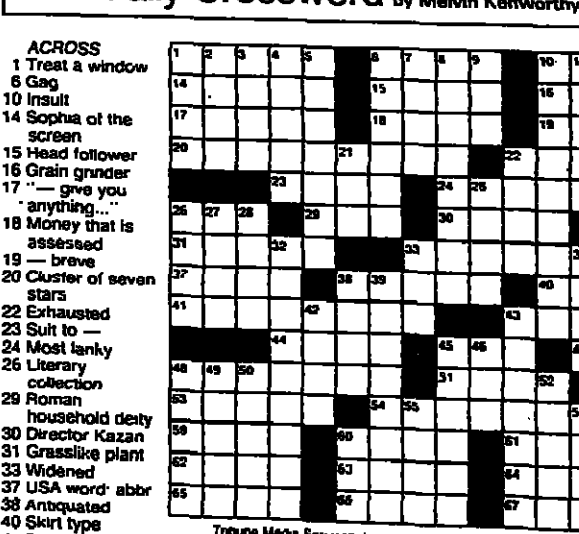


Print answer here: A

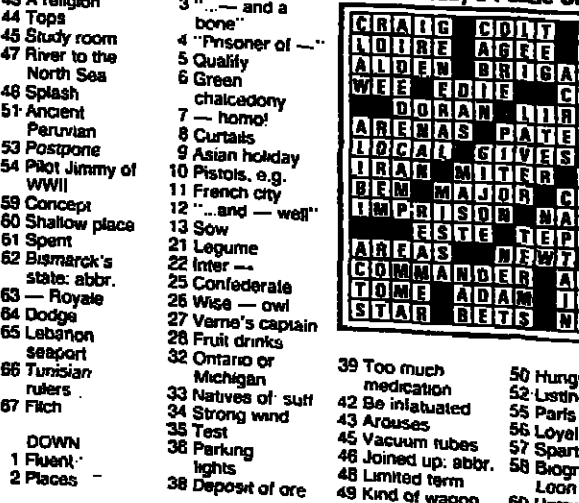
Yesterday's Jumbles: MAXIM INKED SATIRE DEVICE

Answer: What the tamble-tampered sugar grower did—RAISED CANE

## THE Daily Crossword by Melvin Konwarthy



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:





# Economy

## AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - JORDAN  
TELEPHONE: 44070 / 44071  
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR SATURDAY 24/04/1993

COUNTRY'S NAME	TRADE VOLUME	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
ARAB BANK	229,890	127.750	128.750
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	32,020	5.040	5.000
ARAB BANK FOR INVESTMENT	4,284	25.000	25.500
ARAB BANK FOR INVESTMENT	1,430	25.250	25.200
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	126,594	4.000	3.970
THE JORDANIAN BANK	3,673	3.820	3.840
JORDAN EMIAT BANK	3,807	4.420	4.400
UNION BANK FOR SAUING & INVESTMENT	681	4.540	4.540
SECURITIES BANK	12,900	4.400	4.300
ARAB INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	8,374	3.270	3.250
NETT REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	624	6.200	6.000
ARAB BANK FOR INVESTMENT	85,020	5.850	5.700
ARAB BANK FOR INVESTMENT	22,077	1.690	1.690
ARAB BANKING CORPORATION/JORDAN	3,483	3.430	3.410
PELADIPHEIA INVESTMENT BANK	9,462	1.550	1.630
ARABIAN SEAS INSURANCE	921	2.700	2.630
JORDAN FRENCH INSURANCE	448,488	4.120	4.080
UNIVERSAL INSURANCE	896	2.840	2.880
PELADIPHEIA INSURANCE	535	2.080	2.080
ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	10,230	2.950	2.950
JORDANIAN MARITIME POWER	71,129	2.210	2.240
JORDAN HOTEL & TOURISM	6,830	1.410	1.380
TRID DISTRICT ELECTRICITY	8,050	1.790	1.380
JORDAN TOURISM & SPA COMPLEX	2,250	0.470	0.550
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	21,361	1.410	1.380
JORDAN REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	14,134	0.780	0.750
PELADIPHEIA SECURITIES	15,320	1.130	1.140
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	178,291	1.630	1.600
ARABIAN PRESS & PUBLISHING / ALMA	7,064	1.380	1.370
UNION KIDDAE EAST & CONDORE HOTELS	225	10.100	10.500
ARABIAN PRESS & PUBLISHING / ALMA	2,250	5.500	6.500
ARABIAN PRESS & PUBLISHING / ALMA	41,545	2.970	2.990
ARABIAN PRESS & PUBLISHING / ALMA	194	2.000	2.000
THE JORDAN COAST FACTORIES	111,001	1.910	1.920
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	1,630	0.550	0.520
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	133,927	0.560	0.500
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	121	2.430	2.410
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	166,474	1.140	1.200
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	173,648	2.550	2.530
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	41,292	3.760	3.740
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	178,291	1.630	1.600
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	11,825	21.790	21.500
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	360	3.650	3.600
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	81,223	0.700	0.700
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	31,440	3.450	3.450
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	20,574	0.920	0.900
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	8,559	2.880	2.880
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	41,102	2.980	2.980
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	1,008,994	12.320	11.310
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	81,659	4.480	4.520
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	36,464	1.580	1.580
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	271,027	1.950	1.940
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	235,573	1.880	1.880
JORDAN PETROLEUM RETAIL	6,613,634		

## Arab League reports steady decline in Palestinian economy

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The Palestinian economy in the occupied territories has steadily declined in recent years due to the uprising and stepped-up Israeli counter-measures, an Arab League report said this week.

The problem was exacerbated by the Gulf war which depressed aid to the Palestinians and to rising unemployment due to the immigration of Jews from the former Soviet Union, the Cairo-based league said in its 1992 annual report.

Except for the growth in West Bank farming, all other sectors in the occupied territories had declined since 1987, the start of the intifada.

From \$1.78 billion in 1987, the Palestinian gross domestic product (GDP) fell by 11.4 per cent annually in current prices to \$1.23 billion in 1990 and is estimated to have declined by 10 per cent from 1990 to \$1.1 billion in 1991, the report said.

The GDP in the occupied territories has deteriorated by an average 12 per cent annually in fixed prices since 1987 because of the events there and intensified restrictions and arrests by the occupation authorities, it said.

In Gaza, a hotbed of recent anti-Israeli violence, the situation was worse, with the GDP declining by 17 per cent in 1990 from 1989 compared with 11 per cent in the West Bank, where the farming sector grew by 3.1 per cent in the same period.

## Gold price jumps to 6-month high as bull factors hit market

LONDON (R) — Gold leapt to a six-month high of \$344.90 an ounce Friday as a combination of factors included U.S. investor buying lifted the metal out of its recent trough.

"The fall in the U.S. dollar, the return of Middle Eastern interests as buyers and U.S. investors' funds coming into the market all helped to push gold up," one dealer at a major bullion trading house said.

The most significant factor was the activity of U.S. funds, which were aggressive buyers in New York Thursday night at around \$339 to \$340 and again Friday at higher levels.

Gold jumped about \$1 an ounce Thursday after the German Bundesbank reduced its Lombard and discount rates and ended the week in London at \$340 an ounce.

The market was also being

## Arab League report defends investment abroad

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The Arab League has defended Arab investment, saying local markets lacked incentives, yield remained relatively low and domestic policies were pushing out more funds.

In the 1992 annual report released this week, the 21-member league estimated overseas Arab investment at \$670 billion, with \$280 billion dollars in bank deposits and the rest in stocks and real estate.

About \$162 billion dollars are owned by the private sector.

The report said Arab countries with large stock markets, such as Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia and Morocco had failed to attract surplus funds from capital export member states like Libya and the other oil producers in the Gulf.

"This is due to the strong competition from the world financial markets, which are characterised by depth and high returns and this enable them to attract Arab funds," said the report.

"This is coupled with lack of incentives in Arab capital importers, currency restrictions, administrative obstacles which discourage investment, and failure to explain investment opportunities to foreigners."

Besides those four countries,

## Romania announces pay rises to offset price shock in May

BUCHAREST (R) — Romanian Prime Minister Nicolae Vacaroiu Friday announced a package to offset price shocks sparked by market reforms planned for next month.

The package includes cash handouts of 8,000 lei (\$13) and a monthly pay rise of 6.8 per cent in May, when the government is due to scrap the last communist-era subsidies on staple foods like bread and milk and key services including energy.

"We reached this decision after two months of talks with the trade unions," Mr. Vacaroiu told a meeting of the minority ruling Democratic National Salvation Front (DNSF) party.

The government also set minimum monthly wages at 28,950 lei (\$47) in May, up from a previous 17,600 (around \$28), and increased the average monthly state-sector wage to 57,000 lei (around \$93), up from 43,000 (around \$71).

Mr. Vacaroiu said this would offset what he called "spectacular price hikes" in the next few months, adding that average prices had already risen 18 times

## Bangladesh relaxes exchange regulations

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh lifted a series of foreign exchange regulations Saturday to try to open its doors to a free-market economy, the central bank said.

The relaxations will allow foreign entrepreneurs to borrow unentitled funds from Bangladesh and foreign banks, remit profits without restrictions and set up joint-venture industries without prior permission, the Bangladesh Bank announced.

They will also allow Bangladeshis to take foreign exchange worth up to \$10,000 out of the country for medical treatment and \$2,500 a year for tourism, the bank said.

The changes, expected to come into force from the first of June, will end regulations that bar foreign companies from borrowing any funds from the Bangladesh bank.

"The idea is to open our door to free market economy. The whole of south Asia is doing that. So we can't be caught napping," said a senior central bank official who asked not to be identified.

Foreign companies are at present required to obtain prior permission from the Bangladesh Bank to borrow funds from foreign banks or bring in money from abroad.

They must also invest 60 per cent of their profits for expansion of their projects in Bangladesh and have the central bank's permission to repatriate the remainder of the money.

The bank's approval is also needed by foreign entrepreneurs seeking to set up industries in collaboration with Bangladeshis.

Under the current rules, a Bangladeshis is entitled to take out foreign currency worth only \$300 a year. No foreign currency can be taken out for medical treatment abroad.

## Vietnam says it needs \$50b for development

HANOI (AP) — Vietnam told potential foreign aid donors Friday it would need up to \$50 billion to develop its primitive economy between now and the year 2000.

The vice chairman of the State Planning Committee, Vo Hong Phuc, outlined the plan in a meeting with officials of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and from Japan, Australia, and several other nations.

Mr. Phuc said priorities included building deep-water ports, upgrading roads and railways, and reforesting barren land. He expected the programme to cost as much as \$50 billion, half of which he hoped would come from external sources such as multilateral banks, donor nations and private investors.

Both sides agreed that a successful aid programme would hinge on continued development of private enterprise in Vietnam and an active role by the Vietnamese government.

The meeting served as a warm-up to a donor's conference sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme and planned for October or November. The meeting, the first of its kind since Vietnam's reunification under communist rule in 1975, is aimed at organising funding of Vietnam's economic needs and ensuring wise use of the money.

David Husband, a consultant for the U.N. Development Programme, said Vietnam's transition to a free market economy has so

## Bahrain Investcorp gets \$330 m loan facility

MANAMA (R) — Bahrain-based Investcorp S.A. has signed a \$330 million loan facility with 17 local and international banks.

A bank statement said the loan would be used both to refinance a \$250 million loan facility it had received in 1990 and for general corporate purposes.

The loan was significantly oversubscribed, resulting in the facility being increased to \$330 million from \$300 million, it said.

Bankers Trust International PLC and Chemical Bank jointly ran the deal and eight other banks acted as co-arrangers.

Shareholders in six Gulf Arab states own Investcorp, which channels private investment into Western companies.

**FURNITURE FOR SALE**

Offers sought to purchase and clear all items as one lot from Shmeisani apartment by 30th April. Includes electrical goods (all Philips brand) rosewood dining table etc... settees, beds, carpets.

**Enquiries to: 662790 8-6.**

**FOR SALE**

Honda Accord EX model 1990. Customs duty unpaid. Colour white. In very good condition. Power steering, electric ceiling, window, mirrors and antenna, center lock and four extra wheels. Price Jordanian dinars 6,000 or nearest offer. Interested parties call telephone No. 669391, Amman.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY NEEDED**

Should have sufficient experience in secretarial work and the management of an establishment, should be familiar with WS/Windows/Lotus Computer systems, and should be fluent in English. Salary: in excess of JD200.

Those interested please write to P.O. Box 830486, Amman, enclosing a C.V., a personal photograph and mentioning telephone number.

**FOR SALE DUTY UNPAID CAR**

Four wheel drive "Discover" 1990 model with Range Rover chassis, suspension, engine V8 3.5 litre engine, approx. 20,000 km, right hand drive but convertible sever seats. All extras. Price JD14,000. Pls call 662790 (8-6) 684989 (6-12)

**LOSS OF INDIAN PASSPORT**

I, Charandass s/o Priyam Chand have lost my Indian passport No. Q719946 on 22.4.1993 while in Jabal Amman. If anybody finds it please deposit the said passport at the nearest police station or phone the Embassy of India Tel: 622098

**START NOW A SHORT HAND COURSE**

ITS SIMPLE & FAST مرکز سايه اند ساوند SIGHT & SOUND هاتف 11117 / 7

**TODAY AT**

**PHILADELPHIA** Tel: 634144

Gone With The Wind Shows: 12:15, 4:00, 8:30

**Nabil Al Mashini Theatre** Tel: 675571

Today the Nabil Mashini Theatre hosts Al Fawanis Troupe acting in a play entitled: **Death of Taybeh** By: Suheir Fahd, Mohammad Al Qabbani, Amer Al Khafash

**CONCORD** Tel: 677420

UNFORGIVEN Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30

**PLAZA** Tel: 699238

Julia Roberts — in SLEEPING WITH THE ENEMY Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30

**AHLAN THEATRE** Tel: 625155

Welcome Parliament and Budget On Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 9:00 p.m. Welcome New World Order On Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 9:00 p.m. Please make advance reservation

Currency	New York Close	New York Close
22/4/93	23/4/93	23/4/93
Sterling Pound*	1.5570	1.5745
Deutsche Mark	1.5965	1.5839
Swiss Franc	1.4501	1.4285
French Franc	5.3900	5.3480
Japanese Yen	109.90	110.73
European Currency Unit	1.2194**	1.2320

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.09	3.12	3.12	3.31
Sterling Pound	5.81	5.88	6.06	6.13
Deutsche Mark	7.81	7.62	7.38	6.75
Swiss Franc	5.00	4.81	4.62	4.44
French Franc	8.56	8.18	7.88	7.50
Japanese Yen	3.18	3.18	3.25	3.25
European Currency Unit	8.63	8.50	8.25	7.75

Gold	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Silver	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
23/4/1993			23/4/1993		
Gold	345.75	6.65	Silver	3.96	.087

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6820	0.6840
Sterling Pound	1.0736	1.0790
Deutsche Mark	0.4303	0.4325
Swiss Franc	0.4763	0.4787
French Franc	0.1274	0.1280
Japanese Yen	0.6157	0.6188
Dutch Guilder	0.3828	0.3847
Swedish Krona	0.0437	0.0442
Italian Lira*	0.0457	0.0459
Belgian Franc	0.02090	0.02100

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7900	1.8300
Lebanese Lira*	0.038425	0.040250
Saudi Riyal	0.1815	0.1825
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2250	2.2750
Qatari Riyal	0.1845	0.1865
Egyptian Pound	0.1950	0.2150
Omani Riyal	1.7390	1.7700
UAE Dirham	0.1845	0.1865
Greek Drachma*	0.3130	0.3230
Cypriot Pound	1.4955	1.4455

Index	14/4/1993 Close	21/4/1993 Close
All-Share	192.95	198.52
Banking Sector	134.19	139.19
Insurance Sector	212.12	215.42
Industry Sector	274.91	281.74
Services Sector	251.12	256.66



## Bosnian Serb leader baulks again at U.N. peace plan

BELGRADE (R) — Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic refused to support a revised U.N. peace plan Saturday and accused the West of pushing warring Muslims, Croats and Serbs "to get together like dog and cat."

He met peace envoy Lord Owen to discuss changes to the plan which Lord Owen said Serbs could "settle with honour" before Monday when the U.N. has set a deadline for the imposition of harsher sanctions on Serb-led Yugoslavia.

After three hours of talks, Mr. Karadzic condemned the plan as anti-Serbian and said he would not ask the Bosnian Serb parliament to sign it at a decisive session Sunday.

"I will not recommend the parliament either to accept or reject," he told reporters in Belgrade. "I am going to present the facts. It has to be done by the people."

Mr. Karadzic claimed the plan to divide Bosnia into 10 ethnic cantons would force 500,000 Serbs to flee their homes in areas under Muslim or Croat control.

"If we accept this, we are finished in these regions," he added. "Why are you pushing us to get together like dog and cat? Its simply impossible to live together. We have to separate to be good neighbours."

Bosnian Muslims and Croats have already signed the plan drawn up by Lord Owen and co-mediator Cyrus Vance.

Lord Owen, clearly angered, refused to comment on the appa-

rent collapse of his diplomacy to avert new sanctions and the threat of Western air strikes against Bosnia Serb supply lines.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said at a European Community meeting in Denmark that the United States, France and Britain would discuss next week whether to use military force.

Lord Owen had hoped to persuade Mr. Karadzic to support a U.N.-controlled corridor across a Croat sector of north Bosnia which would link Serb enclaves separated by the cantonal frontiers.

"If anybody's had any doubts about the proposal for the northern corridor, just remember that the Berlin corridor kept us away from a third world war for 30 years," Lord Owen said before he met Mr. Karadzic.

Diplomats said an even bigger obstacle to Serb agreement than the northern corridor was the plan's allocation of Bosnia's eastern region, on the Serbian border, to Muslims.

Mr. Karadzic hinted at this when he said Lord Owen "does not allow any discussion of the structure of the (ethnic) maps. He only recommended various arrangements on the right of passage."

Serbs regard the area as strategically vital and have expelled most of the Muslim population since the start of the civil war a year ago.

Hostility to U.N. mediation hardened at a meeting of the Serb

parliament in Novi Grad in northeast Bosnia despite strong pressure from Yugoslav leaders to head off sanctions.

Bosnian Serb Vice-President Biljana Plavcic said Mr. Karadzic's stance was "the only correct thing to do. Lord Owen's offer was a big trick on the Serb people camouflaged as a concession."

Lord Owen left Belgrade later to meet Croatian President Franjo Tudjman and Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic.

Scores of people have been killed in the past week in an upsurge of fighting in central Bosnia between Muslim and Croat forces who used to be allied against the Serbs.

Sarajevo Radio said Mr. Izetbegovic accused the Croatian Defence Force (HVO) in Bosnia of trying to carve out a state within a state and intended to ask Mr. Tudjman "what he really wants."

British U.N. forces in the war zone said a ceasefire was starting to stabilise and that both sides were starting to withdraw fighting units.

They reported that HVO units had laid mines to prevent British armoured vehicles approaching burning Muslim villages.

Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Friday cancelled a visit to Zagreb to receive an honorary university degree because she was appalled by "horrific attacks by Croats on Muslims" in Bosnia.

A senior aide to President Izetbegovic dismissed Mr. Karadzic

as "completely mad" Saturday after his rejection of the modified peace plan.

Kemal Mufic, counsellor to Mr. Izetbegovic, said the president had been expecting the rejection when he met the Sarajevo just before the news came through with a U.N. Security Council delegation.

The Bosnian president told the Security Council delegation that his signature of the original plan still stood, and said that if the plan foundered, the Security Council would have to be prepared to use force against the Serbs and except the outgunned Bosnian army from an arms embargo against all ex-Yugoslavia.

Meanwhile, the self-proclaimed Serb republics in Bosnia and Croatia agreed to merge their parliaments Saturday but stopped short of formally uniting.

A joint session of the parliaments in the northeast Bosnian town of Bosanski Novi on the border with Croatia voted by 152 to two in favour of the measure, with six abstentions.

The unrecognised republics, created by rebel Serbs since Croatia and Bosnia left former Yugoslavia, decided to pursue common policies but to retain their own presidents and governments.

Political leaders said they could move quickly towards full unification if the west tightened sanctions against Yugoslavia or launched air strikes against Bosnian Serbs.



A British U.N. soldier tries to locate a sniper firing on British positions from a hill above the partly destroyed village of Jelinak in Bosnia (AFP photo)

## Massive blast rocks London

LONDON (AP) — An explosion rocked London's financial district Saturday, showering passerby with flying glass and injuring at least 34 people.

Police reported no deaths. St. Bartholomew's Hospital reported receiving 24 injured, among them five seriously wounded, while London Hospital said it admitted 10 people for shock and glass wounds.

Police said they feared more injured people remained trapped or incapacitated inside bomb-damaged buildings.

The blast shattered glass in scores of bank buildings and businesses, among them the 52-storey National Westminster Tower, the financial district's tallest structure.

No one immediately claimed

responsibility for the blast. However, suspicion focused on the Irish Republican Army (IRA), which has frequently set off bombs in Britain as part of its 23-year campaign to end British rule of Northern Ireland.

Police said they received two coded telephone warnings, one 40 minutes before the blast at 10:27 a.m. local time (0927 GMT).

Near the scene of the blast, a young man sat trembling with his head in his hands on a traffic island near Bank Subway Station. Witnesses said he had been blown backwards by the blast. He would talk neither to police nor reporters.

About a quarter mile away, hundreds of delegates at the annual meeting of the European

Bank for Reconstruction and Development were "shaken but not shaken" and continued their discussions of aid to Eastern Europe, said spokeswoman Rebecca Hill.

The IRA had suspended bombing in England after killing two boys aged 3 and 12 in a double bomb attack March 20 on a crowded shopping precinct in Warrington, northwest England. The atrocity provoked large anti-IRA rallies in London and Dublin.

"Warrington gave them very bad publicity," said Colonel Mike Dewar.

Col. Dewar said the IRA clearly was sending the signal Saturday that, despite the furore over the Warrington deaths, their campaign will continue.

## ANC Chairman Oliver Tambo dies

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — African National Congress (ANC) Chairman Oliver Tambo, who led the group's anti-apartheid struggle for three decades from exile, died early Saturday.

Mr. Tambo, 75, died of a stroke in Johannesburg's Milpark private hospital. He was admitted Friday for observation following a chest infection, the ANC said. The ANC moved quickly to calm tension in black townships where violence erupted after the assassination of former ANC guerrilla leader and Communist Party chief Chris Hani exactly two weeks ago.

"We urge ANC supporters to act with restraint. Comrade Tambo died of natural causes. We do not believe we will see the same reaction that followed the assassination of Chris Hani," ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said.

The independent Human Rights Commission said Friday at least 72 people were killed after the upsurge of violence over the Hani murder. Police have arrested rightwing Polish immigrant Janusz Walus.

Mr. Tambo was the third South African political leader to die within two weeks. Andries Treurnicht, 72, leader of the pro-apartheid Conservative Party, died in Cape Town Thursday.



Oliver Tambo

South African leaders paid tribute to Mr. Tambo, who led the 30-year armed struggle against Pretoria's apartheid policies from London and Lusaka and was formally president of the ANC from 1978 until Nelson Mandela, 74, took over in July 1991.

Reformist President F.W. de Klerk, who started dismantling apartheid in February 1990, said Mr. Tambo had always been supportive of the peace process. The ANC leader returned home in December 1990 after Mr. de Klerk lifted the ban on the ANC.

"Mr. Tambo was known internationally due to his presidency of the ANC over so many years. I only met him once, on which occasion we had a very construc-

tive discussion," Mr. de Klerk said.

"Ever since his return to South Africa, Mr. Tambo was always supportive of the peace process and he played a positive role with regard to the negotiation process."

"For that, the government and I have appreciation. In this regard, he was an example worthy of being followed," he said in a statement.

Mr. Mandela said Saturday the death of his predecessor Oliver Tambo, combined with the slaying of Mr. Hani, was "a very serious blow" to the movement.

Speaking at a media conference here, Mr. Mandela said the loss of Mr. Tambo could exacerbate the growing frustration and bitterness of South Africa's "very angry" young blacks.

"The community, and in particular the youth, are very angry indeed. It is a very volatile situation and I think the death of Tambo will deepen the anger and bitterness on the part of the youth," he said.

Mr. Mandela also warned Mr. Tambo's death, along with the loss of Mr. Hani, would affect the negotiations process because the ANC had lost great minds and great advisors.

But he added they would not have a long-term effect on the transition process, which was by now "irreversible."

## Pakistani police use tear-gas as Sharif arrives

KARACHI, Pakistan (R) — Deposed Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif arrived in Karachi Saturday to a tumultuous welcome from thousands of supporters and police sprayed tear-gas into a crowd waiting to see him.

"Long live Nawaz Sharif," long Live Nawaz Sharif," supporters shouted when Mr. Sharif arrived at Karachi Airport from the Punjab provincial capital Lahore, his power-base.

Sitting cross-legged on the roof of a yellow taxi, Mr. Sharif waved and flashed victory signs to the cheering crowd that pelted him with rose petals as he drove out of the airport in a huge procession.

Mr. Sharif was sacked last Sunday by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan for alleged corruption and terrorising his opponents after a bitter two-month power struggle between the country's two top leaders.

During his tenure as national security Minister, Mr. Athulath-

## Sri Lankan police find body of former minister's suspected killer

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan police Saturday said they had found a body of a young man suspected of having assassinated opposition leader Lalith Athulathmudali.

They identified a body found near the rally grounds where Mr. Athulathmudali, 57, was gunned down while addressing a political meeting Friday, as that of 25-year-old Appaiya Balakrishnan.

Police said Mr. Balakrishnan was wearing a blood-stained blue tee shirt and had a revolver.

They do not know how he died but said there was foam around the mouth indicating the man may have taken cyanide, an act typical of guerrillas of Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) separatists.

During his tenure as national security Minister, Mr. Athulath-

mudali was responsible for spearheading the National Security Forces' war against the Tigers.

The funeral of the leader of the Democratic United Liberation Front, who was campaigning for elections to seven regional councils when he was shot, will be held Wednesday.

The government has offered a five million rupee (\$106,000) reward for the killer's capture.

President Ranasinghe Premadasa condemned the attack, saying in a condolence message that "every right-thinking person should condemn the killing."

But members of the opposition Democratic United National Front, of which Mr. Athulathmudali was a leader, accused a government death squad of the murder.

Mr. Premadasa asked detec-

tives from Britain's Scotland Yard, the criminal investigative division of the London Metropolitan Police, to help look into the killing.

Sri Lanka has called in foreign investigators in the past to help local police probe political assassinations.

Mr. Athulathmudali, minister of national security, trade and education between 1977 and 1991, was leading a strong opposition challenge to Mr. Premadasa's ruling United National Party (UNP) at the crucial regional polls.

The UNP controls all seven provincial councils, which have wide regional powers, but is likely to lose at least three to a five-party opposition and the DUNF.

## COLUMN 10000

### Mother faces 5,000-pound fine for crying baby

LONDON (AFP) — A young mother in Cannock, northern England, has been warned by the city to stop her teething baby's crying or face a £5,000 (\$7,600) fine. The city council, after receiving numerous complaints that Jackie Whitehouse's eight-month-old daughter Zoe was waking her neighbours early in the morning, told the woman she would have to silence the child. "I'm disgusted with my neighbours for reporting me like this and with the council," said Mrs. Whitehouse, 24, who has one other child. "I try to do my best to soothe Zoe, but any mum will tell you it's the hardest job in the world." Neighbours complain that Zoe has been waking them with her crying at 5 a.m. for several months. A city council spokesman, asked about the warning, said the council was performing its "duty" in investigating "nuisance" complaints.

### Woman persuades rapist to wear condom

CAPE TOWN (AFP) — A Cape Town woman who woke up to find a masked assailant in her bedroom persuaded the man to wear a condom before he raped her, police said Friday. Police said the man gained access to the woman's bedroom early Thursday, where she and her baby were sleeping. He demanded money, and then said he was going to rape her. She persuaded her assailant to wear a condom, which she provided, before he raped her, police said.

### Practical joke on honeymooners costs \$44,000

NUREMBERG, Germany (AFP) — A practical joke played on a pair of newlyweds turned their apartment into a flaming wreck, put them in a state of shock and obliged them to begin married life by moving in with their in-laws. The couple returned from honeymoon to find that the wedding guests had stuffed their bathroom with pieces of paper and tissue, with the pile crammed right up to the ceiling. Nuremberg Police said, "The bridegroom turned on the light, and the heat from the bulb set fire to the paper. The resulting blaze engulfed their home, causing damage of 70,000 marks (\$44,000)."

### Television sex channel loses U.K. court bid

LONDON (R) — The owners of sex satellite channel Red Hot Television failed Friday in a high court bid to block a government decision to stop viewers from seeing its programmes in Britain. Two judges ruled that the European Court of Justice should be asked to decide whether the government acted lawfully in ordering a ban on the sale of signal decoders needed to receive the hardcore programmes beamed from Denmark. But the court refused to grant an injunction preventing the order from taking effect pending the European Court's decision, pointing to arguments by the government that Red Hot Television's programmes could harm children. Red Hot Television's Dutch-based parent company Continental Television BVIO and English marketing arm Continental Television PLC said they would appeal. Sales of decoders for the satellite signals soared when the government said last month it would ban them. It remains legal to use an existing unscrambled

Colombian girl so hungry she gnawed hands — officials

SANTAFE DE BOGOTA (AFP) — A severely malnourished girl was found with injuries on her hands indicating she may have become so hungry that she had gnawed them, Colombian authorities said. Mary Leones, 5, was found tied to a chair and locked in a ramshackle home while her mother washed clothes for local families in Soledad, near the Atlantic Coast, the daily El Heraldo reported Friday. "In these cruel conditions, the girl had no other choice but to eat her own hands she wouldn't die of hunger," an official said. The girl, who lived alone with her mother, was unresponsive and appeared to be mentally retarded, child protection authorities said. The mother, 35-year-old Clarivel Leones, said she tied the girl "so she wouldn't bother me and would let me work."

## Autopsies to start on U.S. cult bodies

WACO, Texas (R) — Autopsies on 43 bodies removed from a religious cult compound set ablaze during an assault by security forces was expected to start Saturday. But identification will be a drawn-out process because of the extensive heat damage, the medical examiner said.

At least four newly-discovered bodies were spotted inside a concrete bunker that withstood the blaze, but the one million rounds of live ammunition inside made removal too dangerous for now. Tarrant County Medical Examiner Nazim Peerwani told reporters Friday.

The autopsy on one body removed Monday from the edge of the site determined that the remains were of a man in his 50s who died of smoke inhalation and secondary burns.

"We are uncovering more

bodies than we expected," Rodney Crow, a dentist with the medical examiner's office told reporters. "When we uncover bodies, there seems to be another one under that."

Mr. Crow said dental information on the cult's leader David Koresh should be enough to identify his body if it is among those removed.

A 51-day standoff ended Monday when federal agents assaulted the compound using tanks and tear gas. The attempt to flush out Mr. Koresh and his followers ended in the death of up to 86 people, 17 of them believed to have been children.

ABC News reported Friday that investigators are convinced the blaze resulted from arson. The television network quoted arson experts as saying they believe three fires were lit at the

same time.

Lawyers representing surviving cult members have claimed the fire started when an FBI tank accidentally knocked over a lantern.

The remains of the last four cult members removed Friday were of three women and a child aged three or four, Mr. Crow said.

Mr. Peerwani said investigators had found no evidence yet to support Justice Department suggestions that some of the bodies had gunshot wounds which might suggest murder or suicide.

The remains are so fragile, some parts little more than powder, that medical examiners will have to rely on medical and dental records to identify the bodies, or perhaps the odd piece of jewelry that may have withstood the heat of the blaze.

## Clinton likes his first 100 days overall

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Bill Clinton acknowledged that he underestimated the power of Republicans who killed his jobs bill but gave himself good marks overall Friday for his first 100 days in office.

"We are moving in the right direction," he told a White House news conference.

Smarting from the Republican filibuster that effectively killed his jobs bill in the Senate, Mr. Clinton conceded, "I did not have an adequate strategy to deal with that."

Overall, though, Mr. Clinton said, "it's amazing how much has been done" in the opening days of his presidency. He cited swift congressional passage of a \$50 billion deficit-reduction plan, his adoption of an environmental policy "dramatically different" from the Reagan-Bush era, and

his proposals for tough voluntary standards for schools. He also noted work on health care, welfare reform, political finance and lobbying reform plans.

"More will be done," he promised at his second full-dress news conference since taking office.

Questions about the bloodshed in Bosnia hung throughout the 48-minute session, and Mr. Clinton said he was within days of announcing tougher action against Serb aggressors in the former Yugoslavia.

The news conference ended a difficult week in Mr. Clinton's presidency, including the fiery deaths that ended the 51-day siege of an armed cult in Waco, Texas, the failure of his jobs bill, and uncertainty about how to stop the bloodshed in Bosnia.

"I spent a year here this week," Mr. Clinton joked later at

a reception. The jobs bill — including money for hiring 700,000 teens for summer work — died at the hand of unyielding and united Republicans in the Senate. Acknowledging that he misread the Republicans, Mr. Clinton said he was exploring what he could have done differently.

Mr. Clinton defended the administration's handling of the standoff with followers of cult leader David Koresh in Waco, saying he did not think that he, as president, should be involved in the planning for dealing with situations like that.

"The questions will be asked and answered: Did all of us up the line of command ask the questions we should have asked and get the answers we should have gotten? And I look forward to that."

## China, U.K. end first round of talks

PEKING (R) — China and Britain ended their first round of talks on Hong Kong's political future Saturday and agreed to hold a second round on April 28 and 29, the British embassy said. The brief statement, also issued by the Chinese Foreign Ministry, gave no details of progress in the talks, designed to end a six-month-old row. A British embassy spokeswoman declined to characterise the first round of talks, which began Thursday. Both sides have kept a diplomatic silence over the negotiations.

## S. African journalist found dead

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A black South African television reporter was found dead one day after he and his white cameraman were attacked by youths in Sharpeville township south of the city, police said Saturday. He has been hacked to death. South African Broadcasting Corporation journalist Calvin Thiso, who went missing shortly after he and his colleague Dudley Saunders were attacked by about 20 youths, was found in the outskirts of the township. Saunders, the cameraman, was wounded in the head, back and arm and was suffering from concussion. A police patrol saved him after the youths surrounded the television crew's car. He could not say what had happened to Thiso. The crew was in Sharpeville to report on desecration of black graves by white right-wing extremists.

## 3 killed in Chechenia clash

MOSCOW (AFP) — Supporters of Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev lobbed a handgrenade in their battle to dislodge the sacked interior minister from his offices, wounding three people, Interfax agency reported Saturday. But the president's militia failed to install the new minister, whom Mr. Dudayev appointed last weekend after dismissing the government and the parliament of this Caucasian state, Interfax said. General Dudayev simultaneously imposed a curfew in the capital, Grozny, and accused the security forces of failing to maintain law and order. Tension has reported to be high in Grozny, with demonstrations by supporters of both parliament and the president.

## Akihito briefed on war tragedy

NAHA, Japan (AFP) — The local governor reminded Japan's Emperor Akihito of the tragedy of World War II Saturday during an unprecedented visit to Okinawa, the southernmost prefecture of his country. "Okinawa was the only site of ground battle in Japan in the last war. The battle cost not only numerous lives but also a lot of cultural assets," officials quoted Okinawa Governor Masahide Ota as telling the emperor. Mr. Ota stressed at the brief meeting in the prefectural government building that the war experience must not be forgotten and should be passed on to coming generations, in the interest of world peace. Emperor Akihito, the first reigning Japanese emperor to visit Okinawa, an island prefecture in the East China about 1,600 kilometres south of Tokyo, was described as listening carefully to the governor's words.

## Baird named to U.S. intelligence board

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton has named Zoe Baird, a prominent attorney without experience on intelligence matters, to an intelligence advisory board because "she's competent and qualified," the White House said Friday. Ms. Baird, a corporate lawyer, will serve on the president's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, a 12-member panel headed by retired Adm. William J. Crowe, said White House Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers. The position does not require Senate confirmation.

## Clinton chooses NATO ambassador

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton said he will nominate Robert Hunter, a specialist in European affairs, to be U.S. ambassador to NATO. Mr. Clinton also announced he will nominate Robert Nordhaus to be general counsel at the Energy Department and Bruce Lehman to be assistant secretary of commerce and commissioner of patents and trademarks. Mr. Hunter is vice president for international politics and director of European studies at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, which is a foreign-policy think tank. Mr. Nordhaus is an attorney specialising in federal natural gas and utility regulation and onetime general counsel to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission during the Carter administration.

## Nobel Prize amount raised

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — The Swedish value of the Nobel Prizes, the world's richest awards, was raised by 3 per cent Friday, to 7.7 million kronor each. But they are still worth less than last year in dollars, because of the krona's devaluation. The prize value as of Friday was the equivalent of \$919,000. That is \$62,000 less than the prizes for literature, peace, chemistry, physics, medicine or physiology, and economics were worth when they were last handed out, on Dec. 10, 1992. At that time, they were worth 6.5 million kronor (\$973,000). The Nobel Foundation, which funds the prizes, and oversees their distribution in Norway and Sweden, elected a new chairman Friday, Bengt I. Samuelsson, a 1982 winner of the Nobel Prize in Physiology, will join the board on May 1 and become its chairman. He is president of the Karolinska Institute, which chooses the physiology or medicine prize winner.

## 4 die in Italian chemical plant leak

ROME (R) — Three workers and an ambulance man were killed by a poison gas leak at a chemical plant in northern Italy, police said Saturday. The accident occurred Friday evening at the Veneta Miniraria Spa plant which produces sulphuric acid in the town of Caravaggio, east of Milan. Rescue volunteers Egidio Bottazzoli, 21, collapsed and died as he rushed from his ambulance to help a worker who was lying on the ground, apparently lifeless. Mr. Bottazzoli was not wearing a gas mask. Another colleague, who had also got out of the ambulance, managed to crawl back and sound the alarm.